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The Gardener

Photo: D. R. D. Wadia.

Meet Mrs. Luce

U. S. Society Woman Turned Politician

(See Page 3)

Profit Before Patriotism!

Menace of Monopoly Cartels To India

By K. G. B.

"At one time I thought scientific research had become the monopoly of America and Germany and that in British industrialists were resting on their oars," stated Sir Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar recently at a Press Conference in London. "Firms' secrets shown to us reveal that they are willing to co-operate with us in India's industrialisation", he added.

The statement appears to have a sinister ring. Interpreted in the light of various other developments and the feverish plans that are being evolved in the world of monopoly capitalism and big business in Great Britain United States of America and India we have every reason to be warned against history on international cartels repeating itself.

There appears to be universal ignorance about the international cartel system which is a development of modern, highly-organized monopoly capitalism. Even in this we have had limited experience of the cartel system. But if in the post-war years large scale industrialization is introduced in India cartels would find in one form or other a permanent and hospitable home in our country—particularly as even the well-informed seem to have a vague idea about what has been appropriately described as a cancer and national calamity in modern Europe and America. In order to appraise the danger we must throw a rapid glance at the foreign scene where cartels hold a challengingly dominant position.

Real Ruling Class

A cartel is an organization of a small group of industrialists, manufacturers and businessmen who operate on the principle of monopolistic control of production and markets. The modern industrial technique tends to concentration on productive power with the result that the individualistic producer and small businessmen are eliminated. Thus in the highly industrialized countries like Germany, U.S.A., and Great Britain small groups of industrialists have come into existence and who control not only industrial power but also political power. As a matter of fact, they are the real ruling class even if they used politicians and political parties in each of these countries to promote and safeguard their interests.

The cartel system represents the latest pages of modern international capitalism. The motive behind it is the profit motive whatever involved means the men of the cartels might employ to achieve their aims. Profiteering naturally demands that a state of scarcity should be first created and shortage of goods is the visible result. This necessitates elimination of any and all competition and with the big finance and power behind the cartel nothing is easier. The small producer and businessman is either destroyed in the open war of trade or business competition or, if that were not possible, absorbed or bought out. Certain cartels are known to have what is called a 'battle-front' which saves the small producer the trouble of selling his goods: the cartel simply buys whatever he has to offer for sale.

Three Main Types

The cartels are of different types. But there are three main types. In the first manufacturers of different nations who specialize in production of the same commodity come to an agreement by dividing markets, fixing prices, curtailing production and even lowering the standard of quality of their products. This gives them the power both to control markets and reap maximum profit through fixation of prices. In this category can be included the Imperial Chemical Industries of Great Britain and Du Pont of America who have agreed between themselves that the I.C.I. should sell the chemicals in the British Empire while DuPont should monopolize the U. S. A. In other words they divide their spheres of influence without any competitive interference which otherwise would have taken place.

In the second type, the cartel buys all the patents of industrial or manufacturing processes. Every scientific discovery is thus turned into not a source of profit to the people but to a small group of persons who invest in it for personal profit. They buy and sell—the patents—only amongst themselves and the patent rights prevent any agency challenging their right to sell what nobody else has the right to sell and on terms that leave no choice or option to the buyer. The most remarkable instance in this monopoly control is that of the manufacturer of Atabrin the only efficacious substitute for quinine which is employed throughout the world for the treatment of malaria. This chemical therapeutic drug has been invented by German scientists and the German cartel of I. F. Farben has empowered Winthrop Chemicals' of America to sell it.

In the third type of cartel big manufacturing firms are started under same or different shop signs which specialize in the same product. Although these firms in different countries give the impression of being independent productive units, they are all owned by a small groups of financiers and businessmen. This type of cartel uses the same technique as the others described above. The N. V. Phollip organization specializing in electrical and other products had plants and firms in America, Holland, Germany Switzerland, Great Britain, Sweden, Portugal, Canada Peru, Spain and India. The wireless sets and other products have been and continue to be sold in different countries while the owning and profiteering interests are common. There are no enemy or Allied countries to the cartel promoters who on the contrary find their affiliates in enemy countries very useful in clearing up goods even in the wartime blockade and restrictions. It is all a question of labels for smuggling goods in which all the affiliates have invested for profit. Profit is above patriotism even though the Germans have had the best of both the worlds in this respect.

Closely Guarded Secret

These secret or camouflaged international monopoly arrangements have been a closely guarded secret till European War II produced its crisis. This began in U. S. A. whose Government found that the war effort was impeded through the existence of the cartels with powerful affiliates in that country. In February last the Kilgore Committee known as such through its President Senator Kilgore war appointed and carried out a thorough investigation into the working of the cartels. When its report was published it electrified the whole world. The U S. A. ministration tried soon to smash up the cartel monopoly in its worst form with the enactment of the Anti-Trust laws and after Pearl Harbour and the storm it created in America the cartels found it impossible to maintain their grip on the Government and the public of the United States of America.

The Kilgore Committee has published conclusive documentary evidence to prove that the American businessmen and cartel affiliates have actualy helped their Japanese affiliates in the cartel to secure the most strategic material for Japanese war effort when their own needs were much more urgent. The Titanium cartel can be mentioned as a typical instance. This is a most important substance used in the manufacture of paints, rubber glass, and other war products. The American cartle affiliates had contracted with the Japanese as well as other partners to keep up their supplies and they tried to carry out their contractual obligations although the material was used to pile up the American dead. This is a very dramatic spectacle of the 'internationalism' of profiteering by big business which naturally puts as in everything else profit before patriotism.

How cartels place profit before even ordinary human decency and social sense could be seen from the fact that while under the cruel conditions of a totalitarian world war the monopolists of Vitamin D withheld from the people of their own country. 99 per cent. of whom depended on the drug, the one thing that made such a difference to public health and physical well-being. The control of products of synthetic hormonos, Atabuine and other important medicines by means of patent manipulation has completely checked business competition. No one outside the ring is permitted under the prohibitive patent rights to manufacture or sell these vital drugs and every efforts in research was automatically discouraged.

Need Of Drastic Action

This situation demanded drastic action and it became impossible even for the Roosevelt Administration to permit the continuance of a monopoly which involved the issue of survival and security of the United States of America. The Anti-Trust law was therefore enacted and the Administration had to prosecute even the I. C. I. which is one of the most powerful cartels in the British Empire. A well-known American economic and sociological authority recently published the statement that the I. C. I. has lent hundreds of its men to the British Ministry of Supply. He made the amazing statement that monopoly business has captured the most strategic positions in the Government of Great Britain and America.

The cartel groups and their agents are not confined to a single party. This can be seen from the fact that President Roosevelt's advisers are drawn from the ranks of businessmen or indirectly influenced by these men. The American Congress has its well-organized and all-powerful pressure lobbies and the liberals who are active today in establishing economic democracy, without which political democracy must be reduced to a mockery, find themselves confronted with the task of breaking the power of reaction in high places and policies.

This should give us a fairly adequate idea of the danger that is threatening us. The statement of Sir Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar, I have quoted at the beginning of this article indicates how the Indian men of big money are being baited to join the Empire cartels. Already in the Indian industry, we find monopoly gaining control. The big business operators are doing here what the German industrialists had done on the eve of Hitler's rise in National Socialists Germany. It is the German industrialists who made Hitler and his Nazi Party although the legend is kept up that the Nazis have destroyed this class. Today when Nazi Germany is faced with certain military defeat these men are making plans to safeguard their interests even under conditions of Allied military and economic occupation of the III Reich.

Post-War Menace

In post-war India there is a large and tempting field for organized and lucrative monopoly and cartel activity. The foreign capital investment and industry would be only too glad to collaborate on attractive and mutually beneficial terms with their allies and friends amongst the big business who, like their foreign prototypes, are making a bid to capture the state machine.

The problem in that sense is the same for the people of India as for the people of Great Britain, U.S.A., and all countries in the world. The conflict which is definitely sharpening presents the same pattern and problem, for the common people. "Status quo ante" is the watchword of the important Allied Governments with the solitary exception of Soviet Russia which has evolved it socio-economic structure on as entirely different basis. The cartel promoters are only waiting for the war to end to revert to their old practices and a warning is being sounded in America against the mistake of allowing them to regain the control which has been a source of all wars and universal economic human misery which is channelizing through war.

The only remedy is for the people to unite in destroying all monopoly that is based on the profit motive and demand that the economic power should be vested in the people and should be employed by the people for the good of the people. In India where the masses of millions have lived in extreme want, poverty it is our duty not to depend entirely on the world revolutionary forces in checking the grand design of the cartel groups who are today trying to seek their collaborators amongst Indians.

A MODERN POMPEII

Scenes In Warsaw

By STEFAN LITAUER,

A week ago Warsaw was liberated, and now I have been walking around trying to find the main sites of the once beautiful and gay capital of Poland. But I searched in vain.

Warsaw no longer exists. It has vanished. Instead, there is a heap of ruins, perhaps the largest in the world—a modern Pompeii of an extent that must be seen to realise the enormity of the Germans' criminal destruction.

People who have visited Warsaw will remember one of the most beautiful parts of the capital—the well-known Saxon Square, later renamed the Pilsudski Square. I stood in the centre of the Square and everywhere I looked there were ruins. There was nothing to obstruct my view. Everything has been flattened.

Stare Miasto—the historic old city—has ceased to exist. Its site is indicated only by a quadrangle on which used to stand well-preserved 16th century houses.

But it is not only the centre of Warsaw that has vanished. The industrial quarters have gone too. Not one of the many large plants in the Wola district has been left intact.

Only in Warsaw's West End, the fashionable quarter along Ujazdowska Avenue, have a few houses been left standing, comparatively undamaged. This was the quarter reserved four years ago "nur fuer deutsche" ("only for Germans"), as big boards at some points still announce.

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MEET MRS. LUCE

An Interview With The Smart And Beautiful Congresswoman From Connecticut

Clare Luce
Socialite and Senator

It is very hard to hold onto the usual objectivity when you sit face to face with Beauty.

It was one thing to weather the blandishments of Rep. Sam Hobbs of Alabama or to withstand the charm of Rep. Everett Dirksen of Illinois even when he told me that he had not forgotten the days when he carried a dinner pail. I could keep my balance about Jesse Wolcott of Michigan even as he held out his pudgy hands—hands once calloused with toil, he said with tears in his voice. But the undermining effect of interviewing Clare Luce of Connecticut is something else again.

My only experience even remotely like it was an occasion years ago when I worked for a hardy Republican paper which opposed all New Deal functions, but particularly opposed the WPA. I confessed to the boss that it was very difficult for me to be funny about a park show to be given by WPA after a bunch of broken-down actors who'd been hungry for years had pleaded with me to give them a break. The boss then drew himself up, pointed heavenward and said with stirring intonation, "Harden your heart, girl, and write the truth."

It was not only the fact of sitting across the desk from the fragile quality and wistful blue eyes of Mrs. Luce that made it so difficult to recall that only an hour or so earlier her lovely voice was heard on the floor of the House: "Mr. Speaker, clear everything with Sidney."

Her "Communist" Friends

I had tried so many times in the closing days of Congress to see Mrs. Luce without success that when her sturdy and protective secretary in charge of the press, Al Mirano, ushered me into her presence I was hardly prepared for it. I was conscious of my own unmanicured paws before the lacquered perfection of her blood-red nails, my sodden mass of straight hair. Hers was glowing, golden, and was unaffected by a three-day rain. I wriggled my toes in my wet Oxfords, edged out of a damp coat still reeking of mothballs and retrieved my papers and bundles and knitting from the floor as I sat down. But Mrs. Luce proceeded to make me feel right at home. She did this by assuring me that (1) I didn't look a day over twenty-five, after I had confessed to forty; and (2) that some of her best friends were Communists. I was perfectly ready to believe that some of her best friends were Communists—and that I didn't look a day over twenty-five—until Miss Freda Utley telephoned and Mrs. Luce, before answering, explained chattily, "One of my good Communist friends calling." Anyone who confused a Trotskyite with a Communist, I reflected sadly, might not be too reliable when it came to a discussion of ages.

Woman To Woman

"Al is furious at me for seeing you," said Mrs. Luce, laughingly, woman to woman. "He hates to see me talk to people who are going to take me apart." She glanced at my bright smile, which I trust was sympathetic but noncommittal, and glanced away, saying with self-pity in her voice, "Of course I can't expect to get a break in New Masses. Why should I?" Then she told me why she should. Like so many Congressmen, she apparently thinks of herself as quite a radical when talking to a New Masses correspondent.

It was at the end of the interview, though, after about an hour and a half of talk, that Mrs. Luce, standing and hitching up her tailored suit skirt over a beautifully flat stomach and slim hips, made her most telling appeal. "A Negro editor was in here the other day," she said. "Talking about discrimination, he said, 'But you wouldn't know what it is like.' I said, 'Oh, I wouldn't? Haven't I known it every day I've been in Congress?'" Here was a subject which struck home. We grew indignant together over the way reporters wrote about her latest hair-do instead of what she said—although I admit now in cooler judgment that she has corrected that by toning down her hair-do and jazzing up her remarks. "And they always have a woman answer me instead of a man," she said irritably. But when I began speaking about age-old discrimination against all women, her attention wandered. I became aware of a look of distraction on those beautiful features, and then of her voice, cool and brittle, "I don't care what you say about me but I would like to see the direct quotes you use before you print them." After I said yes, and walked away down the corridor past the locked doors of amiable Congressmen who never asked for previews of quotes, I remembered ruefully that Representative Luce wrote "The Women."

Husband Luce

Mrs. Luce has heard that some persons make the fantastic charge that she went into politics because she was ambitious. The fact is otherwise. As she said, demure, her voice low, "I conceived this as a job to do. I've always worked hard. This is the hardest work I've ever done and it is certainly not glamorous." It seemed that the thing which hurt most deeply, though, was that some persons intimated that behind her political career loomed the figure of her husband, Henry R. Luce, publisher of "Time, Life and Fortune" magazines. "I ask you", she said in a tone as near impassioned as any I heard her use, "since when has a man ever sought the presidency or a political career without ever going into politics? My husband never has made a political move in his life. Look at the way, he runs his magazines—he certainly doesn't play them politically."

"What about the recent Bullitt article?" I asked, alluding to the article in "Life" by William Bullitt which had been used elatedly by the Nazi radio.

"'Life' contracted for two articles and is printing them, that's all," she began defensively, but admitted that it was political. "It's a devastating article. It represents the opinion of a good many people in this country who mistrust Russia." Asked what she herself thought of it, she said, "Well, I would have preferred it if Bill had presented these arguments as his own and not as the Italians".

Mrs. Luce campaigned in 1942 on the need of fighting a hard war, not a soft one. She denied she had changed in her attitudes since that campaign, or since any previous time, although she voted for Roosevelt in 1932. "My quarrel is that if we had had more honest leadership it would have taken us into the war better prepared and would get us out of it with—" she paused a second then said, "less loss of treasure and life."

The style was different, but I asked her if the gist of what she said wasn't the same as that of her speech before the Republican national convention, when she blamed the war on Roosevelt. She denied the speech did this. Didn't she feel that the speech was a mistake politically, in view of the public reaction? Having read the many resentful letters on it from men in the armed forces and their wives published in the New York "Post" and elsewhere, I expected to find her chastened and subdued on the subject of that speech. But no. "Not from what I have seen and heard," she said. "The letters I got were four to one in favour. The New Deal press attacked it, the Republican press didn't." She considered it "nonpartisan." She "did it entirely on my own," she said proudly, and added with a touch of venom, "They asked me to leave the subject of party policy and the party planks to Dewey and Warren. As a woman they wanted me to address the women of America. So I did."

I have a copy of the speech before me, with the changes made after it was mimeographed for the press. The speech purports to be in behalf of GI Jim, the dead American hero of this war, who is, along with George Washington's ghost, haunting the convention hall. "We have come together here to nominate a President who will make sure that Jim's sacrifice shall not prove useless in the years ahead." Some of the deletions are interesting. The line, for instance, that shows Mrs. Luce fails to distinguish between this and other wars: "And he died as his father died in 1918, and their fathers in 1898, 1861, in 1846, and in 1812, in 1776." A gruesome alliterative line, "His young bones bleach on the tropical roads of Bataan." And a long passage redolent of Mrs. Luce's basic cynicism, with its closing line, "For in the end, Jim also learned that the only perfect democracy is the democracy of the dead." This is reminiscent in its contempt for people of the speech she made in Los Angeles last January in which she said: "Under the tender ministrations of 'Old Doctor New Deal' America slowly became a nation of hypochrondriacs, introverts, and psychotics."

Attitude To Russia

She was bitter about our foreign policy in the years leading up to the war. But she was equally bitter about Russia for not fighting before it just "happened to be attacked by the Nazis." She admitted, however, that the USSR had tried to get agreement on collective security to halt aggression. I could not tell whom she hated most—Roosevelt, Churchill, or Stalin. "I always have thought Stalin a bloody dictator and I still think Stalin a bloody dictator," she said. One of her favourite gripes was British imperialism—"was and is," she said. She was bitter that her "Communist friends" who used to "cheer me on" when she spoke of India, felt that "the character of the war has changed." "For me it has never changed." She indicated that the Communists no longer talked of India. I hope she read Adam Lapin's column in the "Daily Worker" of September 21.

At another point she said: "Mr. Churchill fights for his people and his empire. It makes me very unhappy that we don't have a leader who is fighting just as hard for American interests, for American culture." Again, she said she was not a nationalist.

Mrs. Luce had not been in the House long when in her maiden speech she attacked Vice-President Wallace's concepts, particularly in freedom of the air in the post-war world, as "globaloney." At the same time her snide remarks on Stalin and on the British were in the best spirit of Goebbeloney. Wallace later chided her by declaring: "I am sure that the vast bulk of Republicans do not want to stir up animosity against either our Russian or English allies at the present time." Newsweek reported that Washington reporters had dubbed Mrs. Luce the American Lady Astor.

She told me she had been "consistent" about the USSR. "First let me say I'm not afraid of Russia. For its own security and the peace and welfare of mankind Russia and the United States must be friends. And when I speak of Russian aggression in Poland and possible Russian aggression in the Balkans or possibly in Manchuria, I am only saying that if confronted by an isolationist America, the Russians are naturally going to look to extending their borders in order to achieve security. Which doesn't mean I don't consider Russia a great and splendid country, full of vitality. I think there is no reason why we can't be friends with Russia if we can believe her intentions about world co-operation."

I asked her whether that "if" didn't make another thing of her statement that we must collaborate. To which she replied that she also said "if" when it came to America's intentions to co-operate—as if that made everything all right. "I think America is more likely to co-operate with Russia if she knows toward what ends she is co-operating," she said. "In other words, I believe in realism—much as I hate the misuse of that word." But did she think what she was saying and doing was on the side of national unity, I persisted? "National unity comes when people are allowed to say what they believe," she said airily.

Religion

She wasn't afraid of the economics of Communism, but she was afraid in one field, "the field of religion." "Tell me," she said, "can you imagine that you, or I—" her hands fluttered expressively as she groped for some phrase that would include all of humanity outside myself and Mrs. Luce, "or even the elevator man, are all, are the best? My quarrel with Russia will end whenever they admit that there is something higher than man."

She summoned Al and asked for a speech she had given before a religious meeting, and underlined in ink what she said represented her quarrel with Communism. The gist was that "the brotherhood of man must presuppose the fatherhood of God." But I obtained the copy of the speech from her and found what she had not shown me, toward the beginning of the speech: "Nazi Germany did not exile God, as did the Russians, to shift for Himself."

I asked if she considered Communism an issue in 1944, and she told, very charmingly, a story about how Australia is now spending huge sums to eradicate the prickly pear, all because an Italian emigrant fifty years ago brought with him one little potted prickly pear to remind him of his homeland. Admitting that Communism might be here in the distant future, I asked, was it an issue in 1944?

"Oh, it's nothing new," she said. "It was an issue in 1940, and in 1936 and in 1932."

"Every time there is an election?" But she made no reply.

I can report a number of little facts about Mrs. Luce. She carries a brief-case, a dainty one of fine red leather. She plays a lot of tennis—on the courts of her hotel, the Wardman Park. I can report that she is an Episcopalian, and that religion is the closest thing to her heart. She is charmed with George Santayana, is reading his 'Last Puritan'. No, she doesn't think him a "genteel fascist," as Joel Bradford called him in NM. She likes to go home from her office at 7 or 7-30 three or four nights a week—when she's here—take a hot shower, order dinner on a tray, and read until 2, 3, 4 A M—philosophy or economics. She guesses Aristotle is her favourite philosopher. She also reads Plato and Karl Marx. But she was taking a train when I last saw her, armed not with Aristotle but with Stanley Walker—his new book on Dewey. "Stanley Walker is an old friend of mine," she explained rather apologetically.

Stanley High, the anti-Sovieteer with "Reader's Digest" and "Saturday Evening Post," is one of her advisers. At least I alluded to him as such and she didn't deny it, and I heard her tell her secretary as she went over correspondence "Send this to Stanley High." The conservative in her office is Isabel Hill, her social secretary for twelve years, who comes from one of the leading families of

(Continued on page 5)

Clare Luce wrote that amusing movie "The Women" which was a brilliant satire on the gossipy females.

In this article, reproduced from the leftist "New Masses" of New York, a woman writer describes an interview with Clare who, with her husband, Henry Luce, publisher of "Time" and "Life", is regarded as one of the major influences in American politics.

Rural Medicine In Post-War Planning

What Are The Bona-fides Of The Planners?

By Dr. M. M. JAISOORYA, M. D.

Sometime ago, in Decembe last, from the snug hyper-modern studio of the A.I.R. in Delhi was broadcast a so-called "educative" discussion between a medical expert of the Government of India who laid down the law as if he were a primary school teacher and a certain Indian professor, styling himself as a "layman" who mistook his role for that of a nitwit or a morone

It was exasperately respectable and sedate, this tete-a-tete, and between them they just finished off the problem of cholera in India as that much bologney. Just in the neighbouring province, Behar, in a single district in the north, lakhs of miserable starving peasants are, this minute, dying literally like fleas or flies (make your own choice), with no aid either as medicine or food, dying actually of that very disease.

Cholera, of which these two delightful gentlemen spoke in such measured terms of academic detachment. The oracular medical expert of the Government of India did not know of any treatment for cholera. In the last fifty years fifty prescriptions have been recommended by our omniscient official medicine and all fifty have turned out a flop. So this learned oracle at the end of his latin, suggests that only improved water supply to the villages is the solution which the professorial nitwit gleefully and frenetically acclaims as the acme of wisdom and the last word on the subject.

EXPERT IS A DISASTER!

This medical expert knows only his own statistics. Most experts know only their own statistics. That is the trouble. As in Goethe "Faust," you know the learned man thus; what he does not know he thinks just doesn't exist, what he can't comprehend must be denied; what they cannot make themselves has no value, what they cannot weigh has no weight. This expert knows no treatment for cholera and yet is ignorant of the Rome and Naples statistics of the cholera epidemics controlled by homoeopathic treatment. Better water supply is not a medical but economic problem. The Health Minister to the Madras Congress Government told me in 1938 that the biggest problem they were facing was that of water supply, and that it would cost them 18 crores and five years time to give the province a rudimentary beginning of it.

It cannot be said that Medicine is in so satisfactory a condition that it can afford to neglect help from any quarter, however apparently unpromising. History shows most conclusively that in the matter of new conceptions, there is no judge so liable to error as the expert in the old. In achieving expertness, he has used up much mental energy, and very likely reached that first mile-stone in the kingdom of old age, the state of inability to understand new ideas. To him a new conception means, indeed, more study and that for a problematic advantage. If the new Truth proves true, his reputation founded on the old must be shaken, and he has probably no longer the energy nor the elasticity to acquire expertness under later conditions. Therefore, not malign calculations, but inertia and sub-conscious self interest make the experts unsafe guides.

Industrialists making fortunes out of manufactures, experts in trade prophesied that the Factory Act would ruin both, musicians condemned Wagner, painters refused academic recognition to Whistler and Rossetti; for twenty years medicoes refused the stethoscope and Barker's manipulative surgery and the genius of Sydenham and Semmelweiss, and British military experts assured Singapore defences that tanks could never pass over Malayan soil. You can imagine the consternation of British generals when 30 ton Jap tanks came racing over Malayan soil. In the last war, German experts declared that tanks were militarily impossible only to be overwhelmed by British tanks. The expert is not a disappointment. He is a disaster.

WISHFUL THINKING

Frankly, I have stopped being optimsitic about a rosy future a wonderful world and this and that—all "after the war." About rural medical relief one could shriek a mouthful because it has either not existed or the half-hearted ignorant efforts have ended in fiasco. I do not believe that Rural Medical Relief" or Rural Reconstruction can be possible under Governments whose socio-economic and polito-economic structures are essentially centralistic and urban. Economically speaking, the Governments in India are feudalistic in structure with all its inefficiencies, that is, the tendency is centrifugal and not centri-petal. This is not a political tirade. It is a medico-economic analysis to tell the reader what rural problems mean. There is too much loose talk in India about Rural Reconstruction and Post war planning, chiefly by men who know very little about them, official or otherwise, and a good deal of wishful thinking and much more of bluff is masquarading as "Post-war Schemes."

In the barren political days of 1921-30, we were dubiously honoured by a host of august and learned "Royal Commissions," about 20 in number, burdening poor India with expensive foreign experts and their wise findings. Voluminous publication with copious details, on account of which no one saw the forest, came and went and files swelled in the secretariats. What happened to all the pious recommendations and findings of those worthy Royal Commissions? Was even one of them implemented? I shall be glad for information from our otherwise voluble "Information Departments" in India. In these still more barren days of stalemates and disillusionments, it is soothing to be told that the minute the war is over, we are all going to change over to being good boys, the leopards change their spots, the money-grubbing capitalist and share bazaar crook retire to Ashrams to do penance, the corrupt officials don sack-cloth and ashes and become real servants of the people, hooligans sprout angels' wings, ozone descend into stinking slums, and, in general, we will all live in lands "flowing with milk and honey" and do nothing but, with haloes (slightly awry) behind our ears, dance and sing to harps (very much out of tune) and (generally) smile and behave like angels gone slightly daft and dotty.

NEW YEAR PROMISES!

That, at any rate, is the impression I get from studying all this ballyhoo of much publicised but "Oh! so very, confidential" Post-War Planning Schemes. God bless these Post-War schemes and their schemers. They leave me literally gasping in mouth-wide-opened amazement and tongue tied paralysis at their colossally grandiose schemes for the future, the titanic dimensions, the jugglery with figures going into billions and trillions; everything super-dimensionally fourth dimensional, amazingly colossal in optimism—almost equally the pathological optimism of the G.P.I.

I happen to be a physician, and I have watched better than many the phantastic desires of the sick. Starving Typhoid patients, unable to keep down any thing stronger than weak beef-tea or slops, dream most vividly and persistently of banquet tables a mile long groaning with mountains of delicacies, compared to which the old Roman and the Londonic Lord Mayor banquets of the 19th century pale into mere hashed tripe; sexual weaklings persuade themselves and try to persuade me that they have literally irreparably ravished the handsomest women of the country in series without tiring, the "ragged philosopher" (the typical sulphur patient) imagines himself wealthier than Ford and Rockefeller combined, while his wife and children starve to death before his eyes, and the G.P.I. patient is angry if you don't greet him as "His Majesty the Emperor of China." Every new year, I make most beautiful promises to myself, brave new-year resolutions to transform myself into the finest man on earth; you know, a sort of faultless, ideal, generous, super-dimensional heroic Jaisoorya; and from January first to the fourth, I am almost convinced that I'll pull it through. On the fifth I become a bit shaky and on the sixth morning it all fizzles out, and, with a sigh of relief, I start remaining what I always am, a tolerably decent commonplace hobo, and (thank you kindly, Sir) quite content at that.

I cannot help feeling that poor India chronically hungry, with her destiny not in her own hands, with cholera, malaria, plague, itch, vermin, dirt, squalor and abominable sub-human standards of life, with a thousand woes burdening her back, is being fed on wild new-year promises and typhoid dreams of Lucculus banquets in the shape of the glorious vistas of kingdom to come in the post-war schemes of an ill-informed, slave-minded, weak-spirited, credulous Indian bourgeoisie, afraid to look facts in the face ready to cling on to any chimera thrown to them.

A MYTH

There is the myth of the rapid industrialisation of India during this war. Visheshwariah in his latest book just issued (Reconstruction in Post-War India) exposes the fact that heavy industry orders went to Canada and Australia who had no heavy industries, and India was denied them. I am too old to believe, after a twenty years study of foreign affairs and international Capitalism, that, after this war, the conflict of trade interests and trade wars in a fiercer form will not reappear. I am not willing to believe that land productivity in India can increase any more than 50%. I am not willing to believe that the finances of India will be such as can finance these fantastic post war schemes for many years to come. I have reasons that will stand discussion with anyone.

Somewhere Plato had said that unless philosophers be appointed kings or kings turn philosophers there is no hope for the cities or the states. Likewise unless men in charge of organising public utilities, especially public health be economists or turn economists, we shall have for poverty stricken countries expensive top heavy organisations bluffing to the world with Potemkin villages of papier mache. It has still to be proved that the men who win the war will also win the peace. It will have to be shown that the present anti-social and in-equitable social, political and economic order is going to change one whit for the better unless under the hammer blows of mass pressure and mass consciousness.

It has still to be shown that men in Government have learnt to make one rupee in India go the length of seven rupees in England, that academic university economists in India have pealed the blinkers off their eyes and seen the reality of India's poverty; that men in Government have understood how to evolve a type of social service that the people need and want, and there are people with knowledge to plan such a service (Grant, Health of India). Finally, giant oaks do not grow in desert sands. Nor can any healthy life grow there where there are not the fundamental economic freedom, social freedom, freedom of thought, action and the right and power to national emancipation. Before we start on post-war economic planning, let us be sure that we have the men with the right social consciousness, and the right thoughts. In short, let us ask; what are their claims and qualifications to the planning of our future destiny and what are their bona-fides?

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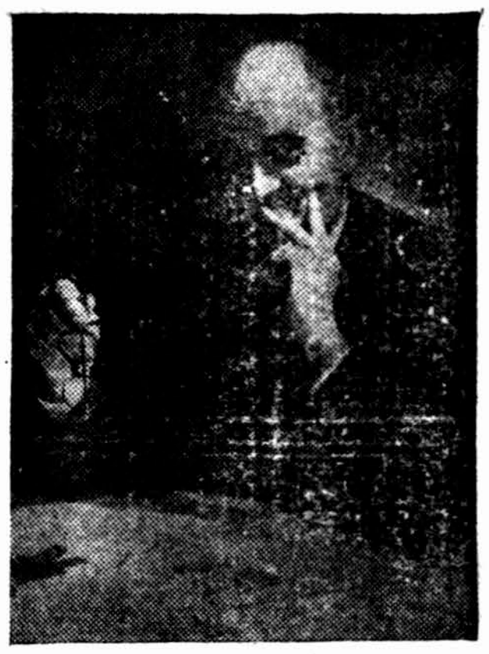
CREATOR OF COL. BLIMP

David Low, The Cartoonist, Who Makes The Great Ones Of The World Stand On Their Heads!

By A. J. CUMMINGS



David Low

David Low is the greatest British cartoonist of our time, I would add that he has become a British institution. There is nothing ponderous about Low; he is vigorously alive, and his pen strikes home with the speed of lightning.

He began his career in New Zealand when as a schoolboy he sold his first cartoon for half-a-crown. In Australia, his brilliant caricatures of leading public figures and his power of summarising shrewdly the political controversies of the Dominion quickly brought him fame.

Then soon after World War I, this bright-eyed innocent-looking young man was induced to go to London, where in the pages of the "Star" newspaper he showed an easy aptitude in mastering the subtle complexities of British politics and in getting under the skin of the British character.

Seventeen years ago the Radical "Star"—to its own great loss—allowed the Conservative London "Evening Standard" to have his services; and it is creditable to the tolerance and good judgment of Lord Beaverbrook, the Conservative newspaper proprietor, that, ever since, Low has been left free to express in his own inimitable manner comments on the men and policies of his time which (to put it mildly) were not always in the "Evening Standard's" line of thought.

Makes Them Stand On Their Heads

Just before the present war, Low published in book form a collection of his newspaper drawings. He called it his "Political Parade." What a parade it is! He makes them march, he makes them grovel, he makes them pirouette before him he makes them stand on their heads.

He has them as completely under his command as if he had them body and soul poised on the edge of his deep black pen—the great ones of the earth (if any such there be), the wicked ones, the pretentious, the self-exalted, the stupid, the perverse and the silly.

Blimp

Though often playful Low is rarely merciful.

His most celebrated creation, I suppose, is Colonel Blimp. Blimp is an elderly Englishman—bald-headed, florid of countenance, long-moustached and pot-bellied—who appears again and again in various guises, but most frequently half-naked in a Turkish bath, as a kind of symphonic motive to personify the shallow commonplace prejudice of social and political diehards.

This ridiculous figure, so cunningly portrayed has aroused more laughter and evoked more bitter protests (especially) among those who feared that the cap fitted them too well) than anything that has yet emerged from Low's inventive brain.

"Blimp" has become a dictionary word. It is part of Britain's political vocabulary. It has even been the subject of an incidental debate in Parliament!

Last year "The Life And Death of Colonel Blimp" was presented as a highly successful film—which annoyed the solemn anti-Blimps because it seemed to convert the reactionary Colonel into a lovable and not particularly foolish character, and for the same reason gave pleasure and considerable relief to the real-life Blimps.

Unerring Sense Of Design

Low is a beautiful draughtsman with a marvellous economy of expression and an unerring sense of design. These are qualities which give life and strength to the best of his war cartoons.

No man has done more with his pen to make clear the fundamental issues of this frightful conflict. But in my opinion, Low rose to his highest stature in the critical years before the war, when, unceasingly, in a series of remarkable drawings, he sought to impress on a half-sceptical public the peril to Europe of Fascist power-politics and the fatal consequences of a failure to achieve collective security among the anti-Fascist and peaceably-inclined nations.

If I had to name the gem among his masterpieces of satire, there is one I should unhesitatingly choose. Some artist somewhere may have produced a symbolic drawing more devastating more superbly implacable than that terrible cartoon—"They salute with both hands now"—which appeared three days after Hitler's bloody purge in 1934. But I take leave to doubt it.

Yes, David Low is the greatest of them all.

"VERY WELL, ALONE"

MEET MRS. LUCE

(Continued from Page 3)

Fort Smith, Ark., and doesn't approve of radical Republicans like Mrs. Luce. "You wouldn't get a thing out of her," Mrs. Luce said firmly, after having seen me speak with her. "The whole staff is close-mouthed about me. They are so fearful for my sake. You see, lots of reporters from pro-New Deal papers come in here to talk with me. I am not afraid to see them; I'm always glad to talk to them though I know, as my staff does, that as soon as they leave, in will go the knife into my back."

Voting Record

I can report that Mrs. Luce has met her Democratic opponent, Margaret Connors, who is reputed to have a good chance of winning. Mrs. Luce failed of a majority in 1942, getting in because a third candidate, a Socialist, polled 12,000 votes. Miss Connors, a lawyer, has visited Mrs. Luce with CIO delegations on legislation. Mrs. Luce claims "a liberal voting record." It has been fairly good, when she has been there. When she doesn't want to vote, she ducks. She has watched her labour vote carefully. She was good on the Dies committee, poll tax, Smith-Connally bill, bad on taxes and price control, and on setting up the omnibus Smith committee to investigate government agencies. She failed to vote on the Relief and Rehabilitation Administration appropriation, the bill providing mustering out pay for veterans, and the federal ballot for servicemen—the three measures she has described as the major pieces of legislation enacted by the 78th Congress

When Pres. R. J. Thomas of the UAW-CIO was honour guest at a Dutch treat luncheon thrown by Rep. George Sadowski last June, some 150 Congressmen came, but none pleaded longer and more earnestly for his support than Mrs. Luce. How the UAW feels about Mrs. Luce is revealed in its August 1 "News-flash." "Clare Luce really is beautiful. And smart, too. But her tear-jerking speech at the Republican national convention about GI Jim had a familiar ring.... We found its source by going back to some Berlin radio broadcasts." Then it quotes from an April 21, 1942 official German broadcast: "Roosevelt's war.... look at its bitter cost already in American lives." And from others, including this from the Jan. 8, 1941, German broadcast: "Several million American boys are already doomed to be cannon fodder..... There may be something glorious about soaking the soil of foreign lands with the blood of Iowa or Illinois boys... but what about many, many thousands of them who will die like rats in a trap when their ships founder on a German minefield off the coast of France!"

A One—Act Play

CONFIDENTIAL PACKET

By P. NIKULIN
Translated by A. B. Khardikar.

(THE CAST: Shura Arsenyeva, Olya Vasilyeva, Romanov Nikolai Georgiyevich.)

(An Office room. Two tables. Behind one of them sits Shura Arsenyeva. Behind the other one is Romanov Nikolai Georgiyevich an imposing elderly person.

There is a window in the wall through which mail is received.)

* * *

SHURA: How early it has begun getting dark, Nikolai Georgiyevich...

ROMANOV: Indeed. (He switches on the light). It's autumn... It'll bring us something, won't it?

SHURA: But I haven't noticed the summer. During the whole summer I went only twice to the dances in the Sokolniki Park. Then we danced once in the club before May Day. That's all. (Telephone rings). It's Arsenyeva speaking... Ah, you! At last! Listen, Lieutenant, are we going to 'Maritsa' or not?... going?... Hurrah!... Right now?... I can't go immediately. Fifteen minutes—not more... You come upstairs to me... Give the receiver to the person on duty... It's Arsenyeva speaking, let her come to me... Yes, the very same comrade... That's right. (Puts back the receiver. So after all I am going to see 'Maritsa.'

ROMANOV: Who was it that phoned just now? Your admirer, was it?

SHURA: What do you think?

ROMANOV: Of course, Lieutenant... Oh! these young people!... What are you smiling at?

SHURA: Oh! Just. Nothing in particular. (knock at the window). Mail? (Opens the window) Confidential? How at this hour... Give it to me, I'll sign!. (Receive the packet, signs). What ill luck, now I must wait until the chief comes. I am unlucky. (Telephone rings). No, this isn't a hair-cutting saloon! Nor the Central Baths! Nor the Station too! Wrong number. (Puts back the receiver) Pooh! How hot it is. The ventilator must be closed now. It's getting dark... (Pulls down the blinds.) And you are even burning the electric stove! It's hot enough without it.

ROMANOV: Excuse me Shura... May I address you in this manner. We have been sitting opposite each other for a whole month. I look at you and wonder!

SHURA: What's there about me to wonder at?

ROMANOV: You have received this confidential packet: according to the instructions, you ought to put it into the box and lock it up. And you don't sit in your place even for a second, I am simply amazed...

SHURA: Georgii Nikolayevich, yes, but there is no one here except you and me. Where's the necessity to put it under lock and key?

ROMANOV: Ah! you girls. You are girls after all. It's on account of the war that important jobs are entrusted to you. But you don't take your jobs seriously enough.

SHURA: Well, excuse me, Nikolai Georgiyevich. But I don't work bad. The chief is satisfied with my work, and so far nothing has gone wrong with my work... It's true, I like to enjoy myself, like to dance especially if a good partner turns up.. That's all. I am jolly by nature—I can't remain sitting in one place.

ROMANOV: That precisely what's bad. Do you know what an unpleasant thing happened in the 4th corps? A confidential packet was lost. And who had to answer in the first instance. The one who was in charge. The enemy doesn't sleep. He sends all kinds of scum among us. We must bear this in mind.

SHURA: Indeed. You are absolutely right. I don't feel offended at all. But, of course, I want to live. I am only nineteen (knock at the door). I also like to dress well and to be liked by others. (knock again). Comrade, Lieutenant come in. (Olya Vasilyeva enters in the uniform of an anti-aircraft gunner lieutenant). Here's my so-called admirer, Nikolai Georgiyevich. I introduce her to you. And this is Nikolai Georgievich. He is a friend of mine.

OLYA: I'm very glad to meet you.

ROMANOV: Isn't it you that sits on the roof and guards us?

OLYA: Yes it's we. (To Shura). Well, let's go.

SHURA: Oh, I am so sorry I can't go. A confidential packet arrived just now. I must personally hand it over to the Chief, as duty requires it of me. And I don't know when the chief will come.

OLYA: And what about "Maritsa"

SHURA: Oh, don't talk! I am so disappointed, you just can't imagine. (Suddenly the light goes off). What's the matter? Has the bulb gone or the fuse?

ROMANOV: That's ill luck. Most probably it's the fuse!

SHURA: (Taking the receiver gropingly). Is it the exchange? Please give me the electrician. Engaged, then disconnect. It's very urgent. My God! What sort of people? (Ah, here's the light). I don't want the electrician! Every thing's alright.

ROMANOV: Thank God! I was afraid that my work was upset... Every minute with me is full.

OLYA: Then, my dear Shura, I have to phone up my brother - he'll come very gladly. Tomorrow we'll meet Right?

SHURA: Without fail. Give me your pass. I'll sign it. How sorry I am! It's so unlucky!

OLYA: I'm so sorry for you. You'll sit here through the night... What are you looking at me like that for?... Shura, I'll drop in at yours to-morrow without fail.

SHURA: (Mechanically) yes... drop in... without fail...

OLYA: What are you looking at me like that for, you silly girl?

SHURA: Olya!

OLYA: What is it?

SHURA: Enough of joking, Olya.

OLYA: How am I joking? I don't understand.

SHURA: Put it back here.

OLYA: Put back what?

SHURA: Well, what you've taken from the table... What sort of silly joke is that, and besides you've in uniform.

OLYA: My God, I don't understand anything. What are you talking?

SHURA: Put back, what you've taken from the table.

OLYA: I've taken nothing. You can search me!

SHURA: Are you speaking seriously? Absolutely seriously?

OLYA: Absolutely seriously. But what's the matter?

SHURA: A packet was lying here ... a blue one, with a seal.

OLYA: Nonsense, you've acting! I am going, or else I'll be late because of your... I'll come tomorrow (goes out. Silence for a few seconds.)

ROMANOV: What's happened? Have you quarrelled? Is it on account of the admirer? How bad it is! Aren't you old friends?

SHURA: "Old friends." I've met her only for the second time in my life (In desperation) What could have happened?

ROMANOV: What's the matter with you, Shura? You look so pale!

SHURA: Nikolai Georgiyevich... It's... It's, that the confidential packet has gone. Here it was lying on my table—and suddenly it has disappeared..

ROMANOV: Really? The packet has disappeared! How could it have happened? There was no one here except us and your girl-friend. Have you known her long?

SHURA: No. I've already told you so.

ROMANOV: The Devil only knows what sort of a stupid thing this is for the second time in one's life one sees a person and allows her in here. Here too is laying a confidential packet on the table, and the light also goes off just at that moment! What lightheartedness! Only "Maritsa" alone is in my thoughts!

SHURA: Oh Lord! Once in a while I wanted to go to a theatre!

ROMANOV: It must be an important packet. Isn't it?

SHURA: Well, obviously....Could it be her? Could it be Olya? No, it's impossible.

ROMANOV: In any case, it's you who has to answer before some one... What are you going to do?

SHURA: (Takes up the receiver) Give me the entrance. Porter, just now Lieutenant Vasilyeva will be going out... Her pass isn't in order. Stop her and send her back to me. (Puts back the receiver).

ROMANOV: It's all in vain. If she has taken the packet, she will hardly return it to you.

SHURA: I don't know what to do. Well, give me advice, save me. Nikolai Georgiyevich, you are a wise man... Oh Lord, what should I do? (cries) I am done for... Of course!

ROMANOV: Poor girl, what'll happen to you? In an hour or so the thing will be known, and what'll happen to you? And, in fact, you are not to blame. You are young, you want to live, to have fun.. (Shura cries). Well, it's like this. Listen to me. Only don't squall. Listen carefully to what I am telling you... (Shura becomes quiet). The packet is with me. (He goes to his table, opens the drawer, shows her the packet and once again conceals it.) I took it from the table when accidentally the light went off. Hey Presto, The light goes off. Ein, zwei, Drei—and the packet is in my drawer. Kio! Have you seen it at the circus?

SHURA: (Smiles through her tears) No, I haven't seen it, Nikolai Georgiyevich... I feel very ashamed. I understand, you wanted to teach me a lesson. It's a very hard lesson, a lesson which I won't forget in my life. Please give me the packet back, and we shall forget about it.

ROMANOV: Dear, simple girl... Give back the packet?

SHURA: Please give it back to me.

ROMANOV: I don't propose to give it back to you.

SHURA: I don't understand you.

ROMANOV: Think it over a little -perhaps you will understand.

SHURA: Enough of joking, Nikolai Georgiyevich. Return the packet to me. It's from the People's Commissariat. It's a very important packet.

ROMANOV: Then certainly I won't return it. I want it for twenty minutes not more. Afterwards I'll give it back to you. But on one condition.

SHURA: What condition?

ROMANOV: From this day onwards every secret document addressed to your chief, must first of all be handed over to me. You needn't' worry about it. I know how to handle secret packets. No one will notice anything. Do you understand me?

SHURA: (Perplexed) Is it possible?... You are, of course, joking Nikolai Georgiyevich...

ROMANOV: No, I'm not joking. It's already a month, I have been observing you... You are a child, a feather—brained child, Shurochka, a funny Russian girl, who has been entrusted with a responsible job. You must dress well, look smart. You are very nice, Shurochka... You help me and I'll help you. Have we come to an understanding?

SHURA: Listen, wasn't it you... in the 4th corps?

ROMANOV: May be it's me.

SHURA: How you dare say such things to me!... If I raise a cry, call people?

ROMANOV: Nonsense. You see, the packet is in my hands. Here at my feet, there is an electric stove. I have only to stretch my hand and nothing will remain of the packet except a small heap of ashes. When people enter, I'll tell them, "This piece of trash is slandering an honest person. She has lost the packet or has given it to her accomplice and to save her skin is slandering another person...? Why should we quarrel? We can very well come to an understanding, dear Shura...

SHURA: Somehow this is very bad, Nikolai Georgiyevich.

ROMANOV: Well, think it over... Are you a person of such principles. Your head is stuffed with wind, my dear blind Russian girl... Agreed? Well, that's very good: You just write a small note, just two lines—not more.

SHURA: All right. But you'll give the packet back to me, won't you?

ROMANOV: Of course, I'll give it back to you. Please write: "From this date I place myself under the charge of Henrich Franzevich..."

SHURA: What did you say, "Henrich Franzevich"?

ROMANOV: Write as I dictate to you: "—...in charge of Henrich Franzevich and pledge myself to carry out all his orders." That's all. Month and date. Have you finished?

SHURA: Yes, I've finished.

ROMANOV: Give it here to me. (Takes the paper). What have you written?

SHURA: You can read yourself.

ROMANOV: "From this day I proved to be an absolute idiot..." Have you lost your senses?

SHURA: No, I am perfectly in my senses. It's you who has lost your senses, when you thought that a Russian girl was capable of such a mean act!

ROMANOV. (Rushes to her) You vermin!

SHURA: Olya! Come here!

(The door opens, Olya rushes in, her hand on the trigger of her revolver)

OLYA: In time?

SHURA: Just in time! Allow me to introduce to you, Henrich Franzevich... His surname we'll afterwards ascertain. In short that very person who was working in the 4th corps.

(Romanov throws himself into his chair and laughs boisterously).

SHURA: What more comedy is this?

ROMANOV: (Choking with laughter). Well, that'll really do. What sort of Henrich Franzevich am I? Already for the last forty-five years, my dear, I have been Nikolai Georgiyevich. Take, this packet of yours, it's time to become wise, dear Shura. You are in charge of a responsible job, times are very hard. Here's your packet and don't be angry with me for this wicked joke. Hand... (He places the packet on the table stretches his hand. Prolonged silence.)

SHURA: No, I won't give my hand all the same, "Nikolai Georgiyevich"... And this is why: you wanted to know what is in this packet. All right. I'll open it. (Opens the packet). I'll read it aloud: "To Comrade Zaitsev. After observing in the course of a whole month, the activities of citizen Romanov, Nikolai Georgiyevich, I have become convinced that none except citizen Romanov has stolen the secret packet from the 4th Corps, and I shall try to prove it. Signed Alexandra Arsenyeva." Do

(Continued on Page 17)

When you put a Sweet young girl in charge of confidential documents things are bound to happen.....rather unexpected things!

India Govt. Sustains Another Defeat

Second Govt. Defeat

NEW DELHI, Feb. 10.

The second censure motion of the Budget session against the Government was passed by the Central Assembly this evening when Maulvi Abdul Ghani's adjournment motion was adopted by 47 votes against 40. The motion censured the Government for the "use of force and illegal and unfair means on the public of Bihar by agents of the Government for the purchase of national savings Certificates."

Sir Abdul Halim Ghuznavi and Mr. Jamnadas Mehta did not participate in the voting.

Mr. Abdul Ghani moving the adjournment motion told the House that in Bihar parents were compelled to pay for the National Saving Certificate at Rs. 10 per child or otherwise the children would ot be allowed to remain in school. Holders of gun licences had to pay anything from Rs. 200 to Rs. 500 a year. By beat of drums the authorities in the rural areas demanded that everyone who paid a tax of Rupee one should buy savings certificates for Rs. 20. Those who refused to comply with the official demands were harassed in all possible ways. He gave an instance of two merchants of Rajmahal, in the Santal Pargana District, who were forced to purchase bonds for Rs. 10,000 but who said they could buy bonds only for Rs. 1,000. The S. D. O. of the placed served a notice on the merchants wanting to examine their accounts. The matter went up to the High Court where the Judge took a serious view of the case and observed that it was the duty of the Court to protect citizens from arbitrary and illegal action on the part of the Executive authority. There were many other similar cases.

Earlier the House passed a number of demands for excess grants.

The Assembly adjourned till Monday.

Nazi Ships Sunk In Adriatic

ALLIED MEDITERRANEAN H. Q. Feb. 10: Today's Allied communique said: "It is reported from the Northern Adriatic that on the night of February 7/8 a force of British light coastal craft operating on the west coast of Istria met and engaged a large enemy merchant vessel escorted by torpedo boat and E-boats.

The torpedo-boat was hit and sunk immediately. The merchant vessel was also hit and later found at Parenzo. She was later attacked by Beau Fighters and left heeling over and sinking.

On the same night on the Ligurian coast a force Allied light coastal craft operating between Savona and Genoa attacked three enemy coasters entering Savona. Torpedoes were fired and two two coasters blew up and sank. On the night of February 8/9 in much the same area British and American light coastal craft met a north-bound convoy of EFF lighters. In the attack which followed one of the lighters was sunk.

FOURTEENTH ARMY GROUP: Activity throughout the Italian front continues to be limited to extensive patrolling with some sharp clashes. Forces of heavy U. S. bombers yesterday bombed German oil targets in Austria.

Five allied aircraft are missing.

SENTENCES STAYED

ATHENS, Feb. 10: It is generally understood that although no official announcement has been made, as a matter of fact none of the sentences passed by Greek Military Courts will be carried out during the present Conference between the Greek Government and EAM representatives.

E.A.M.-Govt. Agreement On E.L.A.S. Disarmament

ATHENS, Feb. 10: An agreement has been reached between the Government and EAM delegates on all remaining questions including the detailed plan for disarmament of ELAS troops and a compromise solution for modifying the existing Martial Law.

The Government delegates who returned to Athens are meeting General Plastiras, Prime Minister, and other Greek, Cabinet Ministers to-day. It is expected that the agreement will be signed by both the delegations when the conference resumes this afternoon.—Reuter.

Issue Of Forced Collection Of 'National Savings' In Bihar

REVELATIONS ON HEALTH OF CONGRESS CABINET MEMBERS

Dalal-Bhulabhai Brush-Up In Central Assembly

A categorical narration of illnesses and loss of weight of several members of the Congress Working Committee under detention was elicited in the course of answers to questions in the Central Assembly on Saturday.

The number of detained stood on January 1 of this year at 7,574 and those undergoing imprisonment under Defence of India Rules was 5,708 though many of the latter were not convicted in connection with the political movement.

NEW DEIHI, Feb. 10.

Replying to a short notice question by Mr. Satyanarayan Sinha in the Central Assembly this morning the Home Member stated that Mr. Jai Prakash Narain and Dr. Ram Monohar Lohia had been transferred from the Punjab to the Agra Jail. The Government could not consider their transfer to their home provinces. Replying to supplementary question whether both would be kept together in the Agra jail Sir Francis Mudie, Home member said that as they had previously been together there might be a possibility of their being kept together even now. Personally he had no objection.

Replying to another question whether there would be a chance in the amenities from what they were getting in the Punjab, the Home Member said that as rules differed the various Provinces there might be some changes in certain respects.

HEALTH OF WORKING COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

Information furnished in the Central Assembly this morning indicates that Dr. Rajendra Prasad is maintaining fairly good health and all members of the Congress Working Committee are well, except Pandit Govind Ballabhai Pant who had a pain in the back which is improving and may have to be operated on for hernia.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had an attack of lumbago but he has recovered. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel has for a year suffered from spastic colon, but the latest report was that he is well and on his normal diet.

A statement furnished indicated that Maulana Abul Kalam Azad had lost 41 pounds. Pandit Pant 15 pounds, Pandit Nehru 14 pounds, Mr. Asaf Ali 9 pounds and Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramaya 6 pounds. Mr. Mehtab gained four pounds, Acharya Kripalani five and Acharya Narendra Dev 8 pounds and there was no change in the case of Sardar Patel and Mr. Shankerrao Deo.

Answers given indicated that Mrs. Sarojini Naidu and Dr. Prafulla Chandra Ghosh were released on medical grounds and if similar grounds exist in other cases, similar action would be taken.

The Home Member in reply to a question about the non-delivery of the book "India Unreconciled" to Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya, said that the Government of Bombay's reply to an enquiry in this connection had not yet been received. The Home Member added that the Government of Bombay were given discretion to pass or withhold books and he understood a liberal standard had in fact been observed in exercising this discretion.

NUMBER OF DETENUS.

The Home Member stated in reply to Mr. T. S. A. Chettiars question that the number of persons undergoing detention under Ordinance III of 1944 was 7.574 the number undergoing imprisonment after conviction under the D.I.R. 5,708 on January 1, 1945. Many of the persons concerned, he added, were not convicted or detained in connection with any political moyement.

DEATH DUTIES BILL.

The Finance Member indicated in reply to Sardar Mangal Singh that Government proposed to bring forward the Death Duties Bill during the course of the present session.

NO SECRET MEETING OF ASSEMBLY.

The War Secretary Mr. C. M. Trivedi replied in the negative to Sardar Mangal Singh's question whether a day would be set apart for the consideration of the war situation in a secret sitting of the Assembly.

The sterling assets of the Reserve Bank of India on January 26, 1945, amounted to Rs. 1,305 crores said the Finance Member in reply to Mr. Lalchand.

Mr. Manu Subedar asked why Government should not stop purchase of goods in large quantities in this country and why they should not get them from the U. K. and U. S. A. The Finance Member said that was the object of the mission which was at present in London.

BHULABHAI-DALAL BRUSH-UP

The Planning and Development Member, Sir Ardeshir Dalal, in the course of the replies to a number of questions had a brush-up with Mr. Bhulabhai Desai and other members of the Congress and Muslim League parties.

Mr. Manu Subedar asked whether Government had considered how far schemes for post-war industrial development could be prepared which would achieve their purpose if Government had to work under the present Government of India Act which prohibited discrimination against British enterprise.

Sir Ardeshir said this and other points were under Government's consideration.

Mr. Neogy asked if, in the meanwhile, planning was proceeding on the assumption that the present restrictions under the Act would continue to operate.

Sir Ardeshir said planning was proceeding on that assumption.

Mr. T. S. A. Chettiar asked whether the Government had considered the resolution passed by the House in November last year asking for the appointment of a Committee of the House to prepare a comprehensive plan for post-war economic development.

Sir Ardeshir referred to his previous answer and added that if he had been allowed to speak during the last session he would have made a statement on the subject.

This started a long and animated argument between Sir Ardeshir and the Opposition about the procedure adopted last session. Sir Ardeshir contended that closure was moved by the Opposition in that session before he could reply to the debate.

CHARGE AGAINST SIR ARDESHIR

Members of the Congress Party and the Muslim League Party argued that Sir Ardeshir did not himself get up to speak at the time previously agreed upon but tried to put up the Supply Member to speak in order that more time might be taken and the motion for the abolition of the National War Front might not be reached.

Sir Ardeshir emphatically denied this allegation.

RUPEE CIRCULATION

The Finance Member in reply to Mr. Manu Subedar, said about 98 crores of standard rupees had been withdrawn from circulation since September 1, 1939.

In written replies to Mr. K. S. Gupta about Beverley Nichols' book "Verdict On India", Sir Sultan Ahmed stated: "Government have had nothing to do with the publication of this book. I understand it has been published by Thackers. I do not know how many copies have been printed or how much paper has been used".

Q. What is the subsidy if any paid to the author for publishing this book by H.M.G. and the Government of India?

Ans. None by either Government.

Sir Sultan added in reply to another question: "Government have seen articles in the Press dealing with the book. Government do not intend to take any action to prohibit the circulation of the book, which expresses Mr. Nichols' views and Nichols' views only".

The War Secretary informed Mr. K. S. Gupta that the Government of India bore the cost of training the I.A.F. air cadets. None of the cost of Chinese training at Walton (Lahore) was borne by the Government of India. A certain portion was paid by H.M.G. The training of Chinese cadets at Walton (commenced on March 23, 1943).

The cost of training per head amounted to about Rs. 32,000 exclusive of the cost of administrative and industrial staff, repair and maintenance of aircraft and work services.

Tense Struggle Across Oder

First All-Out Assault On Berlin Begins

MOSCOW Feb. 10: Tense struggle is believed to be raging across the Oder at points east of Berlin and around Breslau but the Soviet Command's blackout on news of these operations is being maintained while they are still in the initial stage. The battles now going on beyond the Oder are regarded here as probably decisive in shaping the course of events in these two important directions for some weeks to come.

The first round of an all-out assault on Berlin has begun on the Lower Oder. Fresh Soviet tank formations are rolling west to join in the battle for the vital river line. Moscow now expects big news. Despatches from the front in the last 24 hours do not specifically mention heavy fighting on the Oder but they give a number of indications that something big may be under way.

The Soviet frontline reporter with Marshal Zhukov's forces was permitted today to make this report which is regarded in Moscow as significant: "Our tanks have moved forward to German fortifications to crossings over the Oder to place where a short and straight road leads to Berlin."

Marshal Zhukov's right wing is closing swiftly on the rail junction of Stargard and sharpening the danger of encirclement to German division on direct approaches to Stettin. Soviet forforces are 19 miles from the Big Oder port.

PENETRATION WEST OF STEINAU.

The German News Agency military correspondent said to-day that Marshal Konlev's right wing, striking far beyond the Order, north-west of Breslau, has penetrated deeply into the main German line on both sides of Kotzenau, 23 miles west of Steinau.—

REDS CAPTURE ELBING

MOSCOW, Feb. 10: To-night in the first 'Order of the Day' since Tuesday Marshal Stalin announced that the Russians have captured Elbing.

EDEN AS SUCCESSOR TO CHURCHILL

LONDON, Feb. 10: The British Institute of Public Opinion which inquired in September last as to the public choice for a leader for the Government for the next general elections, repeated recently the following question: "Whom would you like to see leading the new Government after war?"

In September last, Mr. Churchill headed the list being named by 24 per cent, Mr. Anthony Eden following with 21 per cent.

In the recent enquiry Mr. Churchill got 20 per cent and Mr. Eden 31 per cent. Sir Stafford Cripps got 6 per cent on both the occasions. Major Cleament Attlee's stock clumped down from 7 per cent to 4 per cent.

In the light of the results of the "Gallop Poll" which reveals the significant trend in public opinion, the question is being asked, "What will be the policy on India of Mr. Eden's Government?".—United Press.

"MONTY'S" OFFENSIVE GOING SMOOTHLY

First Defensive Zone Of Siegfried Line Penetrated

Montgomery's H Q. Feb. 10: Field Marshal Montgomery's offensive is developing successfully and satisfactorily. British and Canadian troops battling into Reichswald Forest and the Siegfried Line have penetrated the first defensive zone. There are two more major lines and 'myriad' smaller ones ahead. No major resistance has yet been encountered. Advances of the last 12 hours are from two to three miles and Allied troops are about three miles from Cleve, a junction of roads and railways linking eastern Holland with the Rhine.

C. I. O. Support For Citrine

LONDON, Feb. 10: Full and complete agreement with the proposal for peace settlement outlined by Sir Walter Citrine was expressed by the delegate of the American Congress of Industrial Organisations, Mr. J. S. Carey, at to-day's meeting of the World Trade Union Conference.—Reuter.

THE FINAL PHASE OF WAR

A WEEK OF WAR By N. G. Jog

FEBRUARY, 9.

The first official announcement regarding the meeting of the "Big Three" somewhere in the Black Sea area reveals that complete agreement for military operations in the final phase of the war against Nazi Germany has already been reached. The military staffs of the three governments are now engaged in working out jointly the detailed plans.

How long is this final phase of the war likely to last? Apparently, with the turning of the Oder Line by the Red Army in the East and the opening of a new offensive by the Allies in the west, we seem to be rapidly approaching the end of the end. The Nazis may not formally and officially capitulate—all the indications are that they will not! They may wage a sporadic and fanatic guerilla warfare from the more inaccessible regions of the Reich for many long months yet. But for all such resistance, the war can be said to be over when the German army is incapable of any organised fighting.

And that does not seem such a remote possibility, in spite of the martial trumpetings of Hitler and Goebbels. Indeed, the military operations seem to be now more the concern of the commanders in the field than of the inter-Allied General staff confabulating with the Big Three. There are unmistakable indications of indiscipline, insubordination and even incipient revolt among the German soldiers which point only to one conclusion—the collapse of the German war machine.

It is true that they are essentially in the nature of straws in the wind, but they reveal the direction in which things are moving. What can be more significant, for example, than the report emanating from Stockholm that General Guderian, Commander-in-Chief of the German forces on the Eastern Front and head of the German General Staff has been arrested for his inability to prevent the Russian break-through? It is an old trick with the Fuerher to visit all failures on the heads of his commanders. It will be recalled that Marshal Rundstedt was similarly recalled in disgrace when the second front was finally stormed by the Allies, though he was reinstated afterwards.

Wail Of Woe

The gathering collapse extends even to the home front. Berlin itself is a seething mass of confusion and chaos to-day, what with the endless stream of refugees and the complete breakdown of essential services. It has as a matter of fact turned overnight into a front-line city and the Nazis apparently intend to use it as such. Its eastern part is reported to have been completely evacuated and "battened down for the battle which may open on a full scale at any time." The Red Army will certainly welcome this as it will be thus enabled to pay off the old scores of Stalingrad, Kiev and a hundred other places.

The Nazi administrative machinery is crumbling down even outside Berlin. The entire Reich is now in a state of siege and disorder is rampant everywhere in spite of the Gestapo. German broadcasts are now irregular and erratic. Bank notes are no longer being printed on water-marked paper while in certain areas even taxes are not being collected. Bands of foreign workers, who have managed to escape, are roaming over the country while desertions are becoming rife in the ranks of the Wehrmacht

Even Dr. Goebbels' pep talk sounds like a wail of woe. His latest contribution to the "Das Reich" reads almost like a confession of defeat: "It has fallen to our lot to drain the bitter cup of sufferings to the dregs:... The horsemen of the Apocalypse are racing across the eastern and south-eastern regions of our land.....The tide from the steppes will be halted at the very moment when danger has reached its climax and become visible to all. Until then we must keep cool heads and firm feet even though we bleed from a thousand cuts and scratches even though the body of our nation is pierced with countless wounds."

It is a very successful essay in whining indeed and for all its heroic promise of turning the tide, it will only convince the German people that everything is over bar the epitaph!

Unconditional Surrender

The Reich Propaganda Chief as also other Nazi spokesmen are playing the card of unconditional surrender for all what it is worth! It is being represented as an Allied invitation for national suicide—in the literal sense. The Herrenvolk, who have practised all sorts of unspeakable atrocities upon other people for the last six years feel that they are in for the same fate themselves. And this very fear is acting like a spur to German resistance. Here is Lieut.-General Dittmar exploiting this propaganda line for whipping up the national morale.

"The demand for unconditional surrender has to be regarded as a demand to the German people to give full powers to him who means to use them for the extermination of the German people. What today is demanded of the German people is no less than voluntary suicide. There is no choice left to us. Nobody should think I am blind to the misery of our life and the unheard-of strain to which our troops are subjected. Yet all this is not worse than the fate which would fall on a Germany that laid down her arms in unconditional surrender."

It is not known at the moment of writing whether the "Big Three" will issue a statement which will explain to the German people what exactly their demand of unconditional surrender means. Such a pronouncement will doubtless be welcomed by the German people at large, who feel that they are between the Nazi devil and the Allied deep sea. The precedent of President Wilsons' Fourteen Points in the last war suggests itself, though considering the maladroit use the Nazis made of it subsequently, the Big Three will refrain from making any commitments and from giving any guarantees to the German people—even as distinguished from the German Government.

Expediency, Not Ethics

It is amusing to note in this connection the violent shift that has taken place in British public opinion regarding the wisdom and utility of offering some terms to the German people in order to encourage them to muster courage for throwing off the Nazi yoke. Only a few weeks ago, there was a sincere belief held in many circles that the insistence on unconditional surrender only meant the hardening of German resistance—and consequently, a bigger sacrifice of British and American lives!

Remarks were heard in London and Washington that it was only playing into Nazi hands. This belief naturally gained strength when Rundstedt staged his amazing offensive in December and proved that the Wehrmacht had plenty of kick left in it.

Questions were asked even in Parliament whether the Government intended to revise their policy in view of the latest developments. The perspective seems to have completely changed, however, with the Red Army standing within forty miles of Berlin. There is a consensus of opinion in British Press comments on the "Big Three" meeting that with Germany on the brink of military disaster, there can be no question of appeal over the head of the Nazi leaders to the German people!

All this means that the issue is one purely of expediency, not ethics. When Rundstedt threatened to make a return journey to Paris, the German people needed a differentiation from the Nazis. Now that the Wehrmacht is on the run, there cannot be any distinction between the sheep and the goat. After all Moscow considers—with good grounds—the entire German people as guilty. London and Washington, too, are vociferously singing to the same tune, now that the Red Army is out for the kill. "Woe to the vanquished,"—is an old motto after all!

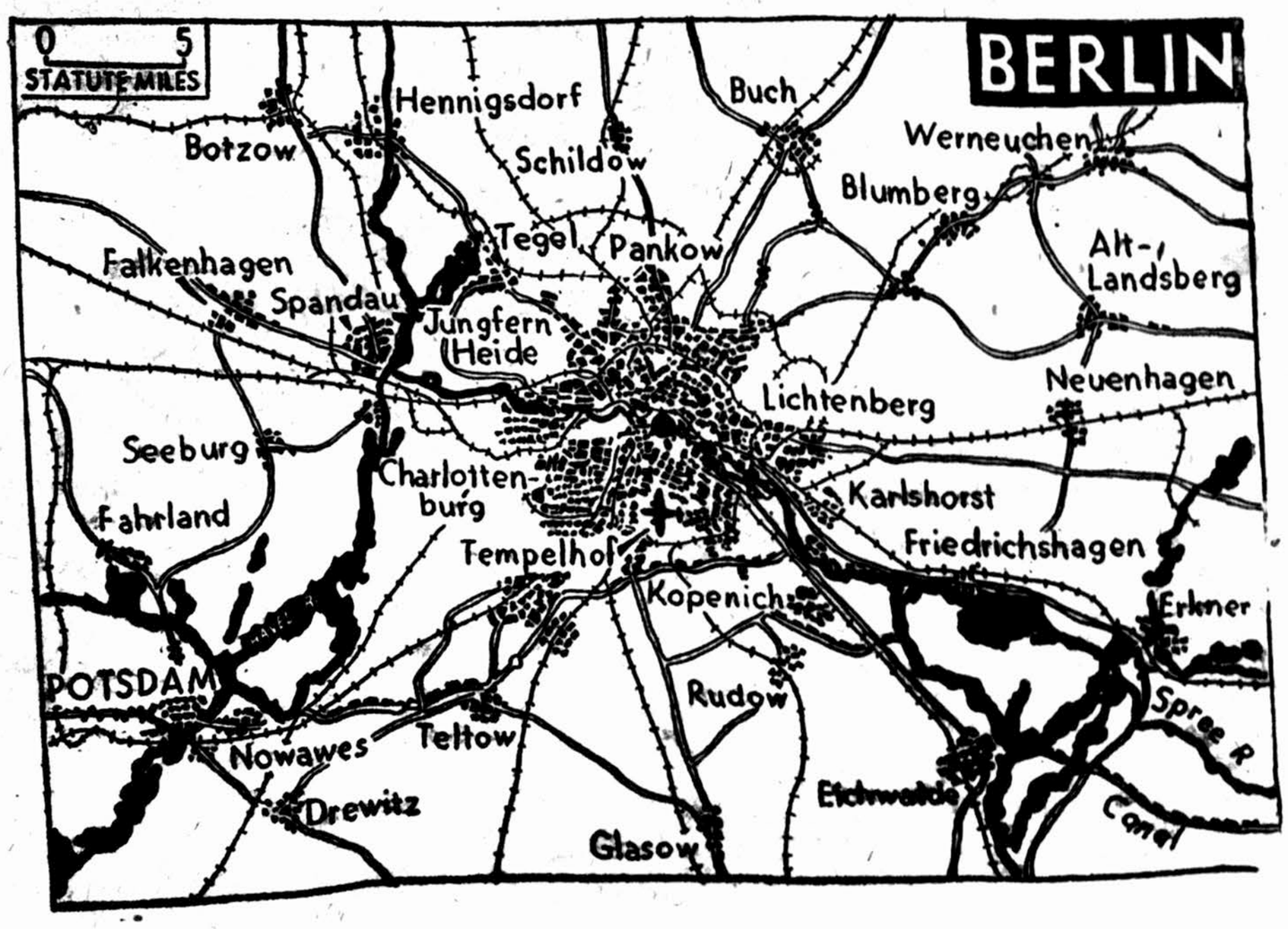
A Sobering Thought

While everybody agrees that the Germany is on the brink of military disaster, there is a wide divergence of opinion as to when exactly the collapse would occur. A round-up of the chief foreign correspondents of the United Press of America showed that the expectations vary from four to six weeks to as many months! All seem to be unanimous in the belief that the Nazi resistance would continue even after the fall of Berlin. None, however, is bold—which means foolish!—enough to prophesy when Berlin itself would fall.

A message from Moscow reveals, nevertheless, that the Red Army would make a supreme effort to march through the Unter den Linden on February 23, its anniversary day. While everybody hopes that it will be so, it is well to reflect on the fact that Budapest has not been occupied by the Red Army even after three months of sustained effort. It is a sobering thought!

Jullian Lyttelton Killed In Action

LONDON—Capt. Jullian Lyttleton of Grenadier Guards, 21-year old second son of Mr. Oliver Lyttleton, Minister of Production has been killed in action in Italy, says an announcement.—India Press Service.



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KASTURBA ANNIVERSARY

Kamaladevi To Preside

On the first death anniversary of Smt. Kasturba Gandhi, a Prayer Meeting, under the joint auspices of the various women's associations, will be held at the Vanita Vishram Hall, Sandhurst Road to-day (Sunday), at 4 p.m. (N.S.T.) Mrs. Kamladevi will preside on this occasion.

Flag salutation ceremony will be held at 96-98 Bora Bazar Street, Fort, Bombay, at 9 a.m. and a prayer meeting at 6 p.m. at Mangrol Mansion (1st Floor), Gunbow Street, Fort, Bombay

Congress Programme For Kasturba Anniversary

9 a.m. (N.S.T.): Flag Salutation in the compound Topiwala Mansion, Sandhurst Road. Shri Nagindas T. Master, President of the B.P.C.C. will unfurl the National Flag and say a few words on Kasturba Gandhi.

4 p.m. (N.S.T.): Women's Prayer Meeting at the Vanita Vishram Hall, Sandhurst Road, under the auspices of the Women's Organisation Committee of the Congress. Shrimati Kamaladevi Chhatopadyaya will preside over this meeting.

6 p.m. (N. S. T.): General Prayer Meeting at the Laxminarayan Bagh, Hall, Opp. Bombay Glass Works, 'Y' Road, Off Lady Jamshedji Road, Dadar (B.B. & C.I. Rly). Shri Nagindas T. Master, President of the B.P.C.C. will preside.

Besides the above main functions, the Kasturba Day will be celebrated by the various Districts and Taluka Congress Committees in the city by holding flag salutation ceremonies and performing sacrificial spinning in the morning and prayer meetings both by women and men in the evening. Service to Harijans will also form one of the items in the programmes by these Committees.

A prayer meeting at 6 p.m. at Mangrol Mansions, Gunbow Street, Fort Bombay to commemorate the 1st death anniversary of Smt. Kasturba Gandhi.

"C" WARD

(1) Mass spinning at 8-30 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 9 a.m. flag salutations in Dabholkar Wadi Kalbadevi Road and Kumbharwada.

(2) In evening at 6-30 there will be prayer meeting in Koliwadi Fanaswadi.

"G" WARD DISTRICT

1 Flag Salutation at 9 a.m. in the compound of Om Samarth Vyayam Mandir at Y Road.

2 Mass Spinning in Noor Bldg. Tulsi Pipe Road at 9-45 a.m.

3 Visits to Harijan Centres at 5 p.m.

SION

Flag hoisting ceremony at Srinivas Building, Telang Road, Matunga G.I.P. at 9 a.m. Nagindas T. Master will unfurl the flag.

MATUNGA

National Flag Salutation at Matunga Jain Hostel. Mr. B. N. Maheswari will hoist the National Flag 8 a.m. (N.S.T.).

'F' WARD

Flag Salutation at 9 a.m. (N.S.T.) at Gwalliorwalla Mansion, Parel. Shri J. C. Maitra, will unfurl the National Flag.

BA'S PHOTO

The Tardeo and Khetwadi Taluka Congress Samitees have published a picture of late Kasturba Gandhi on her first anniversary day for sale. The price is annas 2/- per copy.

After deducting the net expenses from the sale proceeds, the balance amount will be handed over to the Congress Central Board for the Political Sufferers Fund.

SOUTH INDIAN ASSOCIATION

5-30 Prayer and Mass Spinning.

6 p.m. Distribution of prizes to the winners in the All-Bombay Spinning Competition held recently.

There will also be a spinning demonstration by these winners.

6-15 p.m. Talk on "The Ideology behind Khadi and Village Industries" by Sri Hari Rao, a prominent Congressman from Andhra Desha.

TO-DAY ON RADIO

SUNDAY, Feb. 11.

BOMBAY—1.

244 m. (1,231 kc/s)—8-0 a.m. News (H). 8-15 News (E). 8-30 Filmi Gane. 8-50 News (M). 9-0 News (G). 9-10 To-morrow. 9-15 Bismillah and Party. 9-45 Shamala Mazgaonkar. 10-15 Mumtaz Begam. 11-0 'Shivratri' (H). 11-20 J. N. Joshi 11-40 P. D. Khadilkar. 11-55 Shanta Apte: Vocal music. 12-45 p.m. News (M). 12-50 News (G). 12-55 News (H). 1-0 Film Music. 1-30 News (E). 1-40 Lunch Music. 5-0 Shamala Mazgaonkar. 5-45 Topical Talk. 5-55 Locals. 6-0 Bismillah and Party. 6-30 News (E). 6-40 News (H). 6-45 Mumtaz Begam. 7-0 Kannada Songs. 7-15 G. N. Joshi. 7-45 P. D. Khadikar. 8-5 Violin Duet. 8-15 News (M). 8-30 News (G). 8-45 Let Us Play You Something. 9-0 News (H). 9-20 News (E). 9-30 B. B. C. News 9-45 Bankrupt's Balance Sheet (E). 10-0 "Like the Say on the Movies". 10-30 London Symphony.

SIX DESTITUTES DIE.

CALCUTTA, Feb 9: There were six deaths and six admissions of sick destitutes in Calcutta hospitals yesterday.—A. P.

CITY AND SUBURBS

To-day

Hindu: Magh Shud 5, 2001.
Muslim Safar 3, 1364.
Parsi: Amardad 17 1314.
Sunrise: 8-10 a.m. Sunset: 7-37 p.m.
Hightide: 11-46, 24-53.
Lowtide: 6-17, 17-56.

To-day's Engagements

INDIAN CONCERT: At King's Circle, Matunga to-day (Sunday), from 6-0 to 8-0 p.m. (S. T.), by Mr. A. P. Narayangaonkar.

UNIVERSITY OF BOMBAY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION: A General Meeting of the Association will be held in the Convocation Hall, to-day (Sunday), at 3 p.m.

FRIENDS OF SOVIET UNION: The F. S. U. Film Society will present the Czech Film "Janosik" to-day (Sunday), at 10 a.m., at Kohinoor Theatre, Dadar. Tickets can be had from F. S. P Centres.

SECONDARY TEACHERS' ASS.: A meeting of asst. teachers of secondary schools in Bombay and suburbs will be held to-day (Sunday), at 4-30 p.m., in the Union High School, Khetwadi Main Road.

PILOT'S ESCAPE FROM JUNGLE: To-day (Sunday), at 5-40 p.m., All-India Radio Bombay will broadcast a recorded talk by Flying Officer Kapur, entitled "I. A. F. Pilots' Dramatic escape from Jungle.

NATIONAL WAR FRONT: A public meeting will be held at Kumbharwada, Dadar, to-day (Sunday), at 8 p.m. Mr. B. R. Kadrekar and Mr. R. D. Vitekar will speak on "National Savings Scheme" and Dr. R. N. Bhaindarkar will preside.

DADAR MATUNGA YOUTH ASSOCIATION: Lecture by Mr. Dinker A. Desai Joint Secretary, People's Provincial Food Council and Member, Servants of India Society on "Our Food Problem" at 7 p.m. in the Ram Narain Ruia College Hall, Matunga, G. I. P.

AMATEUR ARTISTS ACADEMY: There will be a concert of vocal music by Mr. Mahmood H. Ahmedbhoy and Mr. V. S. Balsekar and also Flute Solo by Mr. Sharad Godbole, to-day (Sunday), at 4-30 p.m., at Laxmi Baug, New Bhatwadi.

ADULT LITERACY CLASSES: Under the joint auspices of Matunga and Sion Taluka Congress Samitees, literacy classes in Gujarati, Marathi and Kanarese will be opened to-day (Sunday), at 10 p.m. (N. S. T.), at the Municipal Primary Hindi School for Boys and Girls, near Arya Samaj, Matunga.

MAHILA KALA MANDIR: Educational Arts and Crafts Exhibition to be held to-day (Sunday), at 6-0 p.m., at Anand Bhuvan Hall Girgaon Back Road, Bombay. Mr. M. L. Dahanukar, President Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce will preside. Mrs. Parvatibai M. Dhanukar will distribute the Prizes.

MAZDAZNAN PRAYER MEETING: To-day (Sunday), at 10-30 a.m., at Mazdaznan Temple Hall opp. Churchgate Station. Dasturji Bode will deliver a Sermon on "Hark! Hark! O Soul to the voice of wisdom". At 6-15 p.m., Dasturji Bode will speak on "Rock of Ancestry".

MARWADI SAMMELAN: A meeting to-day (Sunday), at 5 p.m. (N. S. T.) in the Trading Hall of the Marwadi Chamber of Commerce Ltd. (232-234, Kalbadevi Road, Bombay) to celebrate the third Death Anniversary of the late Seth Jamnalal Bajaj, Raja Bahadur Govindalal will preside.

ARYA SAMAJ, SANTACRUZ.

Shivratri and Shrimad Day Nand Bodh Utsav will be celebrated in Bajaj Wadi Khadi Bhandar compound, Station Road Santacruz, to-day (Sunday), from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Lectures will be delivered on the life of Shree Swami Dayanand Saraswati, founder of Arya Samaj, by Pandits Sudarshan, the famous story-writer, Satyavratta Sidhant Alankar and others.

TELUGU HOUSING SOCIETY.

To protest against the attitude of certain Members of the Munnurvar Community of Kamatipura in seeking to re-name the proposed Telgu Housing Society as Telgu Munnurwar Housing Society the site for which has been proposed to secure from the Bombay Municipality a public meeting under the auspices of the Bombay Telgu Samaj Hithechhu Mandal will be held to-day (Sunday), at 5 p.m., at Bhavana Baug, Shanker Pupala Road, Kamathipura.

MR. M. V. DONDE PURSE FUND COMMITTEE.

A general meeting of the friends and well-wishers of Mr. M. V. Donde and members of the above Committee will be held to-day (Sunday), at 4-0 p.m. (N. S. T.), at the R. M. Bhatt High School Hall, Gokhale Education Society Lane, Parel Bombay, to discuss and consider the details of the programme regarding presentation of Address and the Purse.

JINNAH DAY.

Under the auspices of the Bombay Provincial Muslim League Women's Sub-Committee a public meeting of Muslim Ladies of Bombay will be held to-day (Sunday), at Baig Mohamad Baug, Mohmedali Road, at 3-30 p.m. (S. T.), to celebrate the 68th birthday of Quaid-e-Azam Mohamedali Jinnah. Mrs. Shafi Tyebji, will preside.

INDIAN MERCHANTS' CHAMBER: Mr. Chhotabhai S. Patel has been reappointed at the Representative of the Indian Merchants' Chamber on the Local Advisory Committee of the B. B. & C. I. Railway for a fresh term of two years.

Allies Capture Ramree Town

Today's S.-E. A. C. Communique says:

FIFTEENTH INDIAN CORPS: Our troops have captured Ramree town. Elsewhere on the island our advance continues.

West African troops forcing the Japanese southward from Minbya are now within seven miles of 25th Division troops holding the road block at Kangaw.

FOURTEENTH ARMY: In the area of the confluence of the Irrawaddy and the Chindwin a village south of Nabet which the Japanese had reoccupied has again been cleared.

At our southern bridgehead east of the Irrawaddy where the enemy has been heavily counter-attacking our troops have enlarged the bridgehead. They have captured the whole of the village of Kule and the high ground to the north-east of it.

NORTHERN COMBAT AREA. Units of the First Chinese Army made progress on the Burma Road towards Hosi.

Attacking communications in Burma and Siam, Allied Bombers damaged a railway bridge on the Rangoon-Prome line and hit road and river traffic.

Two Allied aircraft are missing.

AMERICAN BOMBERS OVER JAPAN

NEW YORK, Feb. 10: Five formations of American planes bombed the northern Kanto Area of Japan embracing Tokyo and Yokohama for about an hour this afternoon said a Japanese News Agency message picked up here.

The Tokyo Radio says that 100 planes took part but none penetrated over Tokyo or Yokohama.—Reuter.

Children Shout For Cheap Milk

BOMBAY, Saturday.

More than two hundred children participated in a procession which was taken out today by the Parel Mahila Sangh with slogans for cheap milk and control rates.

It started from the Sangh office at Parel and went upto Dadar. Mrs. Vimal Ranadive, Malati Nagarkar and other prominent women leaders and workers led the procession.

LATEST COMMERCIAL

COTTON (JULY).

New York, Feb. 10.

Previous Closing	21.26
To-day's Opening	21.30
Difference	+04
To-day's Closing	21.27
Difference	+01

American Cotton Market will remain closed on Monday, 12th February.

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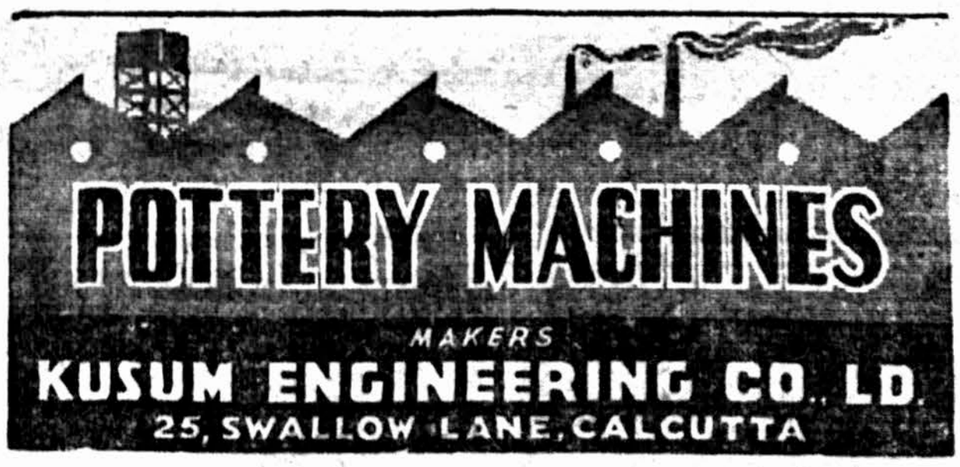

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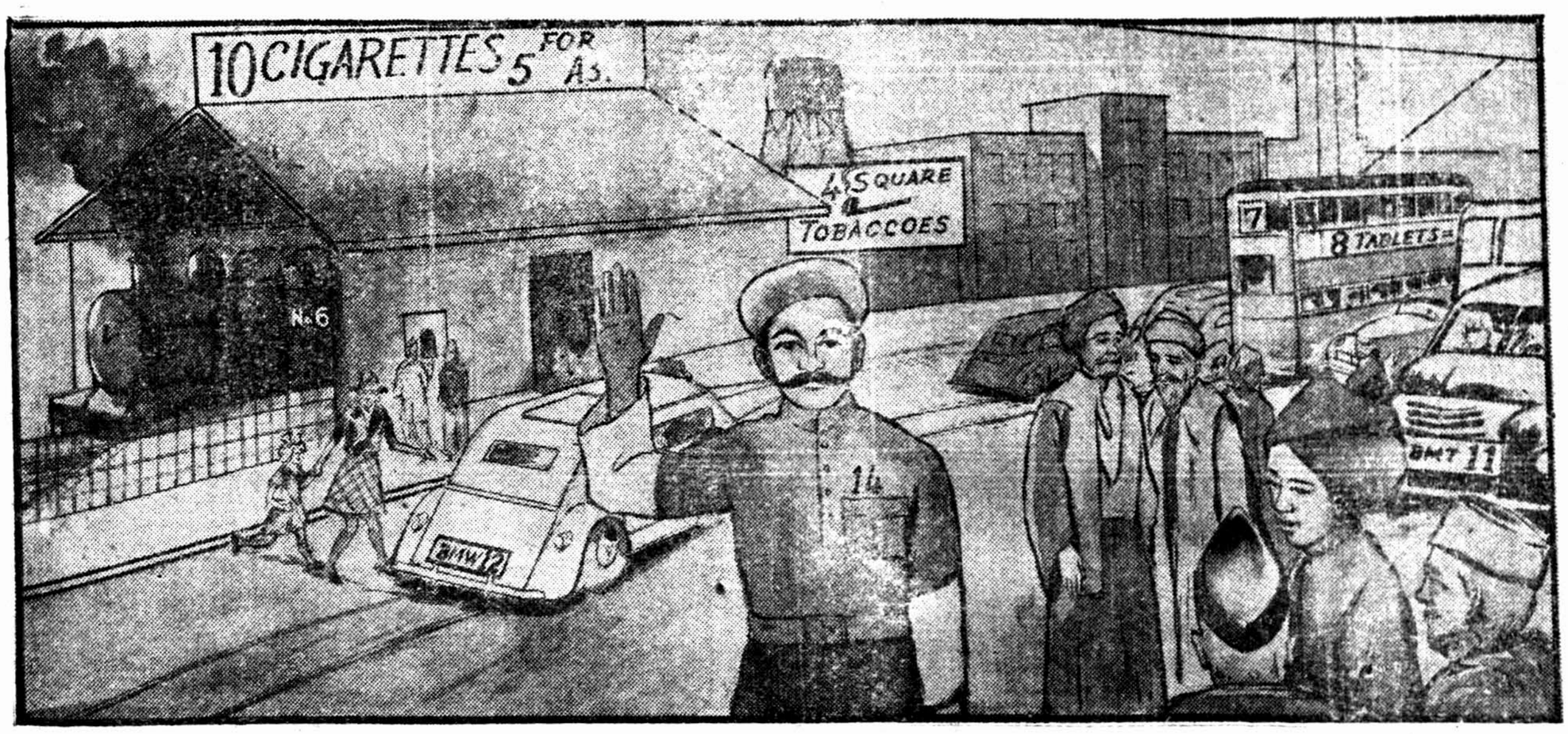
Figures Competition

RUPEES 2,500 IN PRIZES



The Competition this time is quite of a new kind. It is so easy to solve that we feel sure many of our readers wishing to secure substantial prizes will take part in it.

In the illustration given above there are nine different numbers in various places and positions. You have to pick out only eight of these numbers and arrange them in four pairs, each pair to fill the blank spaces on either side of the + (plus) sign in the coupon. The sum (addition) of each pair must be shown in the last column. In selecting the numbers from the picture care must be taken to see that the grand total of the last column is exactly 80 as shown in the coupon.

We give below by way of example, to make the competition quite clear to you, one of the possible solutions:—

$3 \times 2 = 6$
$6 + 4 = 10$
$9 - 1 = 8$
$7 + 8 = 15$
$11 + 5 = 16$
$13 - 12 = 1$
$10 + 14 = 24$

80

It would not matter if the figures of the pair are entered in either position relative to the + (plus) sign. For instance the pair of 6 and 4 can be entered as $6+4=10$ or $4+6=10$. What is important for this competition is the sum (addition of the pair) viz 10 in the example given here.

If the figures entered by you in the last column of your solution tally exactly with those in the "correct solution" which we have safely deposited you will become eligible for the First Prize.

You can submit as many entries as you like with annas eight per coupon before Wednesday the 21st February, 1945 subject to and observing the following rules:—

1. Competitor's name and address must be written in full in block Capital letters on each and every entry coupon.

2. Entries will be received at the counter during Office Hours from 10-30 a.m. to 6-30 p.m.

3. Solution of this competition will be accepted on ordinary paper, cut approximately to the size of the Coupon.

4. Entrance Fee can be remitted by Money Order or by Postal Order or by Postage Stamps. Insufficient amount will disqualify all the entries.

5. All entries must be received in this Office by the last Post on the closing date given below. Any entry received after this date will not be included in the competition.

6. Corrected or mutilated entries or those having more than one number entered in any space will be disqualified.

7. In case of ties, the Management reserves the right to distribute the Prize Money among the winning competitors in any manner they like.

8. No responsibility is accepted for any entry coupon mislaid, lost or delayed. Proof of posting will not be accepted as proof of delivery or receipt.

9. In no case will any entrance fee or money sent with entry coupons be refunded or credited to another competition or account. No communication will be accepted and replied to if it is sent along with the entry coupon. If any correspondence is sent along with the entries Competition Department will not be held responsible in any way.

10. This Competition is run by the "Bombay Chronicle" Co. Ltd., but readers of the "Bombay Samachar" and the "Bombay Sentinel" can also take part in it. This Competition has been licensed by the Collector of Bombay, under Licence No. 6 dated 12th May, 1941.

11. Under NO circumstances correspondence will be entered into or interviews granted in connection with this competition.

12. All Competitors enter this competition on the distinct understanding that the Competition Manager's decision is absolutely final and legally binding in all matters pertaining to this Competition. This is an express condition of entry.

Competitors can submit as many entries as they like, with entrance fee of Annas 8 for each, written legibly on ordinary paper, cut approximately to the size of our coupon.

Address:
Competition Manager,
The "Bombay Chronicle,"
Fort, Bombay.

CLOSING DATE
WEDNESDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 1945

LICENCE NO. 6 DATED 12TH MAY 1941

FIGURES COMPETITION	
3 × 2 =	6
+ =	
9 − 1 =	8
+ =	
+ =	
13 − 12 =	1
+ =	
	80

I have read the rules and conditions of this Competition and I agree to abide by them.

Name .....

Address .....

FIGURES COMPETITION	
3 × 2 =	6
+ =	
9 − 1 =	8
+ =	
+ =	
13 − 12 =	1
+ =	
	80

I have read the rules and conditions of this Competition and I agree to abide by them.

Name .....

Address .....

FIGURES COMPETITION	
3 × 2 =	6
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	80

I have read the rules and conditions of this Competition and I agree to abide by them.

Name .....

Address .....

FIGURES COMPETITION	
3 × 2 =	6
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9 − 1 =	8
+ =	
+ =	
13 − 12 =	1
+ =	
	80

I have read the rules and conditions of this Competition and I agree to abide by them.

Name .....

Address .....

W. I. F. A.'s 'No' To Kasturba Memorial Fund

By J. C. MAITRA

Last week I promised to tell the readers of the "Chronicle" about some of the acts of omission and commission of the W. I. F. A. Committee. Here they go. To start with I should mention the request by Mr. Nagindas T. Master the Mayor of Bombay, regarding the Kasturba Memorial Fund. He suggested through me that the W. I. F. A. should try and arrange a special match in its aid. I had proposed that the proceeds of the Annual International Match between Indians and Europeans might be given away to this Fund. But the powers that be turned it down although I had stressed the fact that it was non-political and non-communal and it would be utilised for the benefit of the destitute women and children of India, irrespective of their caste or creed.

CAUSE FOR REFUSAL

It would take a lot of explaining away to refute the statement that the proposal was turned down for no other reason than it was Associated with the name of Gandhi. I may recall here the attitude of the W. I. .F. A. Committee in regard to the Bengal and Bijapur Famine Relief Funds in 1943. When I came out of jail, the latter fund was about to be closed. But nothing had been done to help it, although 'Bobby' Talyarkhan had been crying himself hoarse in the columns of the "Sentinel." When I suggested a special match for the Bengal Fund, it met with a similar fate. The reason was that "Bobby" was threatening to bring down the wrath of the heavens on the devoted heads of the W.I.F.A. Committee if they did not stage a benefit match for Bijapur. So they would not yield in either case.

LUKEWARM SYMPATHY FOR FAMINE-STRICKEN.

I could not understand—or at any rate, appreciate—the logic of his argument. In any case, "Bobby" had not mentioned the name of Bengal up-to that time! However that may be, should a good cause go unsupported just because an individual or two threatens to show them up for their unsympathetic attitude? These tin-gods would do well to remember that it is the cause—it is the object—that matters and not the praise or Criticism r thoreat. As long as they do the right thing the general mass of the eublic will support them. Ultimately at my continued pressure they donatpd Rs. 1200 and Rs. 200 to the Bengal and Bijapur Funds respectively. But they did nothing for the Kasturba Fund, even though I pressed for it again and again.

ABDULLA RAHIMTULLA TROPHY DISPLACED.

Now let me turn to the Abdulla Rahimtulla Trophy. This was donated by Mr. Abdulla Ibrahim Rahimtulla for the winners of the Western India Championship. It was used for several years. Suddenly last year it was replaced by a cup presented by Mr. F. Summersgill, the newly elected Vice-President of the Association Was this not an outrageous insult to the previous donor? Has any body ever heard of a trophy being replaced in this unceremonious manner? It does not matter in the least whether a trophy is cheap or insignificant. It is the glory of carrying the emblem of Victory that really matters. I have not the slightest doubt in my mind that the W. I.F A Committee would not have dared to do such a thing if the donor was a European. An Indian may be insulted with impunity!

THRASHING OF JEHANGIR PATELL

Another interesting case was in connection with Mr. Jehangir Patell of the W I A A Staff. He was assault ed by a European member of the Association at the Club bar in the presence of several members of the Committee. That august body recommended to the General Body that the recalcitrant member should be expelled from the Association unless he apologised for his ungentlemanly conduct. A special General Meeting was actually convened for the purpose. But it was not held simply because the offender had sent in his resignation! There was no expression of apology or regret. Patell was asked to gulp down the insult and assault as best as he could.

DEFECT OF TURNER AND CO.

As a tribute to his unswerving loyalty to his Colleagues in the Committee, Jehangir is out of it to day—perhaps a wiser though bitterly remorseful man. Once I too was threatened with assault by a European member of the Committee for writing against him in the "Chronicle" in connection with the inter-provincial Tournament. Of course Mr. Moir, the President, apologised to me personally for this incident as he was a witness to it. It was natural for a thorough gentleman like him, but such a sporting spirit is rare. The trouble with the W.I.F.A. Committee is that they cannot stand any criticism like true public workers nor would they accept any suggestion from the press lest it would hurt their prestige of which they are mighty conscious.

A UNIQUE EXAMPLE

Have you ever heard of any sporting association in India which closes its doors frequently to new members for the ostensible reason that its supply of intoxicating drinks is not sufficient for the old members? Well, the W.I.F.A. stands out as the Unique example of this. What has the Control and development of the game of soccer got to do with the supply of liquors. I for the life of me cannot understand. I know of many promising and well-known sportsmen whose lives and careers have been ruined by the drinking habits. But the W.I.F.A. Committee think otherwise. Their stock of wines has now risen to about Rs. 20,000. And their sales have equally increased thanks to persuasiveness of the presiding genius of the Bar, Mr. Behram Doctor. Doctor has now been promoted to the Vice-Presidentship of the B.P.O.A. I expect him to promote the olympics of Bombay with a similar drive!

INDIAN MEMBERS

Could anybody tell me why tectotallers should be prevented from becoming members of the W.I.F.A. owing to "shortage" of drinks at the Cooperage? The only answer I can find out is that most of the aspirants in that case would be Indians which of course would not suit the books of the present Committee. I am repeatedly told that there are many Indians who have joined the association as members. How many of them really understand the game or care to visit the Cooperage during the the soccer season? Very, very few indeed. Personal influences have assisted to rope in some "sethias" and others. But the vast mass of those who are immensely interested in the game are outside its pale.

CONSTITUTIONAL JUGGLERY

The first reason was that its doors were frequently closed. And secondly the admission fee and the Annual subscription were surreptitiously increased without the knowledge of the members! The latter is a piece of jugglery which those who are anxious to wangle amendments to rules and constitutions would do well to learn at the feet of the Cooperage gods. If you are in power you may propose at the next General Meeting that "the printed constitution, initialled by the President and laid on the office table for the last few days," be adopted. Ignorant members would remain silent. So you can carry the day without any difficulty.

A VIA MEDIA

However that may be, I am suggesting at the next Annual General Meeting of the Association as I had proposed before, that the W.I.F.A. should have two classes of membership, namely, Association membership and Club Membership. Those who are interested only in the promotion of the game should be admitted as Association Members in accordance with the old rules. And those who are interested in the bar, in addition, should be admitted as Club Members, paying the new scale of fees. There should be no bar to the Association membership, but the club Membership may be restricted according to the supply and demand at the bar. I hope the powers that be would support this very reasonable amendment to the existing rules. But self protection is a dangerous argument against it. If they apprehend that they are likely to be swamped out of their holds by the flood of new members, they may organise a solid opposition to it.

It is convenient for use. It has a pleasant taste and smell. It is a powerful germicide. It is an effective antiseptic. It destroys bad odour of mouth and sweetens the breath. It relieves irritation of throat faster

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Law And Life

By

"Jarvim"

"LOSS OF EAR"

The Madras Advocates' Association has recently expressed the opinion that the conviction of a legal practitioner for a political offence should not be taken to imply defect of character making him unfit to be a member of the legal profession. The view taken by the Bombay High Court and approved by the Privy Council is that Courts have jurisdiction to take disciplinary action against legal practitioners for political offences though they involve no moral turpitude and were actuated by patriotic motives. But our High Court has further said that after all it has a discretion whether or not it should take disciplinary action in such cases, and the principle it has laid down for the exercise of that discretion is that the Court will not tolerate upon its Rolls a legal practitioner who endeavours to destroy or undermine the authority of courts of Law. If the legal practitioner has been engaged in activities designed to destroy the system of which the court forms a part or likely to hamper the administration of justice it would be misconduct irrespective of moral turpitude. Whether we like it or not, the view taken by our High Court seems to be correct. However patriotic the motive it is difficult to say that political offences are not "misconduct" within the Bar Councils Act or "reasonable cause" for disciplinary action within the Bombay Pleaders Act, for by their very nature such offences must be opposed to law and order and that is the only criterion which courts of law can lay down. The view expressed by the Madras Advocates' Association can take effective shape only through the channel of legislation. But it is difficult to imagine any legislature laying down an Exception in black and white that political offences do not amount to misconduct and thus putting a premium on such offences so as virtually to give a "carte-blanche" to political Saboteurs. The Exception may be confined to political offences which do not involve incitement to or abetment of violence, as suggested by the Madras Advocates' Association, but that would render the Exception practically nugatory for most of these offences are connected with the activities of associations declared unlawful by the Government and Courts may well refuse to recognize the existence of unadulterated non-violence. The suggestion of the Madras Advocates' Association, therefore, appears to us impracticable. It reminds us of lines in which a poet has ridiculed the modern patriot as,

"The man who would aspire to fame,
And gain a patriot's lofty name,
Nor rope nor pillory must fear,
Nor banishment, nor loss of ear."

But then the Madras Advocates' Association may well retort, "Law changes with Life, and when an Advocate is struck off the Rolls he loses a ear.... .....that of the Court!"

* * *

THE ATTESTING WITNESS

In a very recent testamentary suit, the petitioner led the evidence of one of the attesting witnesses. He then wanted to lead evidence that the other attesting witness, one Mahomed Mian, was a friend of the deceased and that he had left Bombay and could not be traced. The trial judge made a note "per curiam," that this evidence even if called would be useless because it would not establish that it was the same Mahomed Mian who attested the will. The trial judge then disbelieved the one attesting witness who was called and refused probate. In the court of Appeal the Chief Justice took the view that the trial judge's note, that the other attesting witness' evidence would be useless, did not mean that he had ruled out that evidence but was a mere observation. To our mind this view does not take into account the practice prevailing in the High Court with which Original Side practitioners and judges are familiar, that judges do not register "P.C." notes merely by way of observation. Moreover, it is very difficult for counsel engaged in the case to dictate to the judge the exact note he should take without offending the judge. Even if counsel does so, the judge may still take the note in his own way. How then can a party be penalised for the loose, inaccurate or wrong way in which the judge may note an objection? The view taken on this point by the Chief Justice seems to us to be not only hard on the parties but wrong in view of the practice set out above, and we wonder why the Court of Appeal should not have called upon one of the counsel on the other side who conducted the case in the trial court, as to what exactly happened in that Court. At one stage the learned Chief Justice mentioned in the course of argument in the Court of Appeal that if the counsel concerned had insisted on calling the evidence he wanted to, the trial judge could not have rejected it. In this connection we may only point out that under Section 136 of the Evidence Act the trial judge could rule out that evidence, and it is submitted that it was under that section that the trial judge had in fact acted in making the note in question.

In a case decided by Mr. Justice Chagla a fortnight back in the High Court Criminal Sessions, the Jury did the trick again. It was a sensational case of an armed robbery at Dadar. The prosecution case as made out by the evidence was that late in the evening of 3rd December last half-a-dozen persons raided the shop of a Marwari in Ash Lane at Dadar, that the first two accused attacked the Marwari, the one with a knife and the other with a pistol while the others looted the shop. As a result of the knife injuries on him, the Marwari died two days later. So that somebody did kill the Marwari, and if the prosecution evidence was to be believed at all, the first two accused did it. The Jury believed the prosecution evidence but only to the extent of finding the first two accused guilty of robbery and not of murder! A veritable "rope-trick" for it saved the men from the rope!

With regard to the other three accused in the case, the prosecution evidence was not clear. With regard to them, Mr. Justice Chagla in summing-up the case for the Jury directed that they could not be convicted on murder, because though robbery involved violence or threat of violence, it could not be said that murder was a probable consequence of robbery so as to bring the case within section 111 of the Penal Code. This seems to us to be a correct view though a division bench of the Madras High Court has held to the contrary. The Jury found the other three accused not guilty of any offence and they were acquitted. Thus ended a sensational trial lasting 13 days in the course of which 41 witnesses were examined

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CITY MARKETS

Gold & Silver

BOMBAY, Feb. 10.

The bullion market was firm today on extensive short covering and quotations again hardened. Forward Gold opened today at Rs. 70/12 and with professional buying and active short covering advanced to 71/14 and ready Gold was quoted at Rs. 72/3. Forward Silver opened at Rs. 123/12 and rose to Rs. 124/12 while ready Silver was quoted at Rs. 123/15. There was a fairly large turnover with rapid price movement.

Silver market was firm and closing quotations were as under:—

SILVER.

Ready	125	0	0
Current Settlement	124	12	0
Next Settlement	123	0	0

GOLD.

Ready	71	15	0
Current Settlement	71	13	0
Next Settlement	70	14	0

BHUJ, Feb. 10.

To-day's Hundi rate 354. Silver 108, Gold 68/12.

Bombay Cotton

The local forward market opened today at Rs. 438/8 for March delivery and improved to Rs. 339/8 under scattered buying. At the rise there was renewed selling and March declined to Rs. 437/8 and steadied at Rs. 438/4. Tone was quiet with pofessional more interesting in May delivery.

Later on there was active buying in March delivery by the syndicate and the market closed at 3 p.m. as under:

I.C.C. March	438	12	0
I.C.C. May	448	8	0
I.C.C. July	460	12	0

COTTON PARITY

BOMBAY, Feb. 10.

Indian Cotton March Contract is 497 cent points below New York March at Exchange rate 331.

HIGH AND LOW COTTON PRICES.

BOMBAY, Feb. 10.

	High	Low	Close
I.C.C. March	442/12	435/12	436/12
I.C.C. May	453/12	445/8	446/12
I.C.C. July	415/12	457/8	458/12
Karachi March	45/10/6	44/14	44/15/6

Move To Reduce Gold Reserve Against Federal Notes

SHORT COVERING IN N. Y. COTTON.

NEW YORK, Feb. 9.

Cotton early advanced on overnight price-fixing and improved spot demand in the South, but prices then sagged evidently reflecting excellent war news and lessening chances of the enactment of the parity formula changes. Additional losses extended principally attributable to favourable war news and met scattered buying and covering possibly based on inflationary implications in the proposed legislation to reduce gold reserve requirements against Federal reserve notes. The session closed very steady.

March opened at 21.80 and after declining to 20.74 advanced to 21.84. The market closed at a net gain of 3 to 4 points. Spot cotton improved 5 points at 22.14c. per lb.

NEW YORK COTTON

March	21.84+05
May	21.69+05
July	21.26+03
October	20.60+03
December	20.52+04
January	20.46+04
March highest (2-48 p.m.)	21.84+05
March lowest (1-18 p.m.)	21.74—05
Middling Spot	22.14+05

NEW ORLEANS COTTON

March	21.76+02
May	21.69+01
July	21.27+01
Middling Spot	21.25+05

NOON CALL

March	21.79
May	21.63
July	21.21

INDIAN STOCK EXCHANGE

BOMBAY, Feb. 10

Tata Ordinary 386 Tata Deferred 2070 Indian Iron 38/10 Steel Corpn. of Bengal 31/12 Bombay Dyeing 1770 Central India 380 Century 900 Gokak 294/6 Kohinoor 590 Simplex 253 Andhra Valley 1805 Tata Hydro 205 Tata Power 1870 Associated Cement 227 Belapur 218/2 Bombay Burma (Old) 547/8

LONDON BULLION

LONDON, Feb. 9.

Spot 25-1/2 Forward 25-1/2 Gold Bars Fine per oz. £8/8/0

LONDON WHEAT

LONDON, Feb. 9.

Wheat Rozario Santa Fe (New crop) 41/3 March quoted
Wheat Australian (Bulk) unoffered
Wheat Australian (Bags) unoffered

LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE

LONDON, Feb. 9.

Rupee Paper 3-1/2 p c	72-3/4
Consols 2-1/2 p c	82-16
Conversion Loan 3-1/2 p c 1961	106-15/16
War Loan 3-1/2 p c	105
Funding Loan 4 p c 1960/90	114-11/16
Victory Bonds 4 p c	113
Chartered Bank of I. A. & China	10-3/4
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank (London Reg.)	88-1/2
National Bank of India	43

CLOTH DISTRIBUTION

All-India Plan Move In Bombay?

(From Our Correspondent)

AHMEDABAD, Feb. 9.

It is learnt that a Conference of textile officers of various provinces is called at Bombay on 13, 14 and 15th inst., when an All-India plan of cloth distribution will be discussed.

Churchill's Rude Shock To Franco

No British Rupture With Russia Possible: Spain Not Likely To Have Seat At Peace Table

LONDON Feb. 10: The substance of Mr. Churchill's letter to General Franco in reply to the latter's communication to the British Prime Minister last November is reported by the diplomatic correspondent of "The Times" today.

General Franco's letter, says the correspondent, "in addition to urging clarification, paid an effusive tribute to Mr. Churchill's masterful and martial qualities and suggested that only three 'virile' powers were left in Europe, one of which was Great Britain. The two others were Spain and Germany. General Franco then turned to Russia and he is believed to have expressed the view that now that Germany was about to be defeated, Great Britain and Spain should together to face the danger from Russia.

Mr. Churchill's reply to all this was to administer a rude shock. He carefully referred to the British desire for friendly relations with 'the Spanish people.' For the Franco regime he had no kindly words to offer. He recalled how that regime had for long maintained not a neutral but a non-belligerent attitude in the war. He told General Franco about the aid which his Government has given to German agents inside Spain. He referred back to statements that German victory was inevitable and natural.

He further recalled how when this country was not in a position to resist, General Franco had forcibly overthrown the international regime in Tangier, also how a Spanish division was sent to the Eastern Front to fight against this country's Allies.

Mr. Churchill recognized that General Franco did not bring Spain into the war after the collapse of France in 1940 or cause complications when the Allies landed in North Africa in 1942. Then he made it perfectly plain that Great Britain regarded the alliance with Russia as fundamental to Britsh policy and that she looked forward to the closest —co-operation with Russia after the war.

Finally Mr. Churchill indicated that there was no likelihood of Spain being represented at the peace conference and no great chance of her being at the peace conference and no great chance of her being invited the prospecting league of security."

According to the correspondent the text of the correspondence was sent to President Roosevelt and Marshal Stalin.

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MOSCOW—A new song "On To Berlin" has been composed by the famous Soviet Composer, Novikov, and the words have been set to music. Millions of copies have been printed and distributed to troops and the people all over Russia.—India Press Service.

FR. ENVOY FOR MOSCOW.

ALGIERS, Feb. 10: Gen. Catroux, new French Ambassador to Russia, left Algiers for Moscow yesterday.

U. S. NOT SATISFIED WITH ATTITUDE OF NEUTRALS.

WASHINGTON Feb. 10: The acting Secretary of State R. Joseph Grew said the United States was "not satisfied with the attitude of a number of neutral countries." Mr. Grew did not name any countries.

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Bombay Races

PHILANTHROPIST ANNEXES RAJPIPLA GOLD CUP

Double For Maharaja Of Gwalior

From Our Racing Correspondent

The Indian-bred Philanthropist accounted for eleven reputed candidates in the highest class when winning convincingly the coveted Rajpipla Gold Cup. Over the last part of the journey, Philanthropist ran out slightly to the left and as most watchers had anticipated the red cone went up as soon as they reached the unsaddling enclosure. Britt who rode the second horse, Chanak, protested for interference. The stewards after a brief enquiry, overruled the objection. The greatly fancied Alijah could only finish third, two lengths away from the winner. The consistent Philanthropist cut the eight furlongs in 1 minute 39 4/5 seconds.

A good double was recorded for the Maharaja of Gwalior. Jaiwant won the Gulamhusein Essaji Cup for his sport-loving Princely patron while in the concluding event, the first division of the Ali Bin Talib Memorial Plate, Micky Mouse who was shouldering 9 stones 12 pounds recorded a smashing win and completed the double.

The day did not pass off without an incident. In the lower division of the Ali Bin Talib Memorial Plate, apprentice Khalil came a cropper from Khalaf Janet but had a miraculous escape.

Form horses were much in fore but a couple of firm favourites failed to win

Trainer Higgins also pulled out a double His candidates Army And Navy and Goodwill won the highest and the lowest division of the Malabar Hill Plate. Britt who steered Goodwill, had an armchair ride and the speedy colt won pulling up by four lengths. Prince Aly Khan was present and hence his candidate in this race. Sultan Mahomed had attracted many. The nice looking colt lost all his chances at the starting gate.

Winlad scored in the Combermere Plate from Rath. Sweet Dream, the public choice ran ding dong and finished a poor third.

The treble event pool was not so easy to solve. Only thirty-one tickets were left behind at the end. Each ticket fetched Rs. 3.808/8.

THE MALABAR HILL PLATE. Division III—Distance 5 furlongs.
The Maharaja Kumar of Morvi's ARMY AND NAVY 8-4 Burn 1
Mr J D Banatwalla's SUPER CHARGE 8-4 West 2
Mr S J Bharucha's STOLEN KISS 8-4 Southey 3
Mr E C Forsyth's ST. ETIENNE 8-4 Uttam Singh 4
Not run: Yipee, Jaidev and Davi Dayal.
Won by 1 1/2 lengths, Head, 1 length.
Time: 1 minute 5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 20. Places Rs. 12, Rs. 12 and Rs. 14.

THE MALABAR HILL PLATE Division II—Distance 5 furlongs.
Lt. Col. W. H. Kerr's PARAMOUNT 8-4 Rook 1
Messrs. A. C. Ardeshir and P. D. Bolton's HIS EXCELLENCY 8-4 Evans 2
Mr. Diamond's PRIORITY 8-4 Burn 3
Mr. A. S. Tyebjee's TANTALUM 8-4 Sibbritt 4
Not run: Chandrakant, Mordant.
Won by 2 lengths, 1 length 1 1/2 length.
Time: 1 minute 5 2/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 83. Places Rs. 18, Rs. 15 and Rs. 16.

THE ALI BIN TALIB MEMORIAL PLATE Division II—Distance 6 furlongs.
Mr. D. F. Karaka's JANAB 9-1 Hanuman Singh 1
Mr. D. P. Pandole's MAHA 8-7 N. Dawood 2
Thakore Saheb of Lathi and Kumar Shri Harischandrasinghji of Lathi's KAID SAOUD 8-2 Khade 3
Maharaja of Baroda's SIDI BARRANI 8-2 Russi 4
Not run: Miami, Prince Mahmud, Sulaf Hassum.
Won by Hd. 1 length, 1 length.
Time: 1 minute 24 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 84. Places Rs. 29, Rs. 74 and Rs. 56.

THE COMBERMERE PLATE—Distance 1 1/4 miles.
Mrs. R. H. Tucker's WINLAD 8-5 Jones 1
Mr. E. P. A. Fernando's RATH 8-5 Raffaele 2
Maharaja of Baroda's SWEET DREAM 8-4 Britt 3
Mr. S. A. Rashid's HAN 9-2 Amir Ahmed 4
All ran.
Won by 3/4 length, Hd., 1 length.
Time: 2 minutes 10 1/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 73. Places Rs. 12, Rs. 12 and Rs. 11.

THE MALABAR HILL PLATE Division I—Distance 5 furlongs.
Mr. Diamond's GOODWILL 9-4 Britt 1
Lt. Col. W. H. Kerr's RENAISSANCE 8-4 Evans 2
H. H. Maharaja of Gwalior's RENTENMARK 8-4 Roberts 3
H. H. Maharaja of Kashmir's DEV KUMAR 8-4 Jones 4
Not run: Royal Wedding, Cent Per Cent, Himalaya.
Won by 4 lengths, Nk, 1 1/2 lengths
Time: 1 minute 4 4/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 18. Places Rs. 15, Rs. 22 and Rs. 18.

THE RAJPIPLA GOLD CUP—Distance 1 mile.
Maharaja of Parlakimedi's PHILANTHROPIST 8-0 Sibbritt 1
Maharani of Kolhapur's CHANAK 9-0 Britt 2
Maharaja of Gwalior's ALIJAH 8-6 Roberts 3
Maharaja of Kashmir's FLUTTER 8-2 Jones 4
Not run: Star of Gwalior, Baqlava.
Won by: 1 1/2 lengths, 1/2 length, 2 lengths
Time: 1 minute 39 4/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 70. Places Rs. 28, Rs. 30 and Rs. 21.

THE GULAMHUSEIN ESSAJI CUP—Distance 7 furlongs.
H. H. Maharaja of Gwalior's JAIWANT 8-11 Roberts 1
Messrs. Hope and Chandulal J. Shah's SUNBATHING 9-3 Jones 2
M/s. Ibrahim Mahomed and Abdul Husain Ali Akbar's PASSING BELL 8-5 B. Khalil 3
Maharaja of Idar's TRUEFIT 8-4 Pook 4
Not run: Blue Toi, Gen. Montgomery, Devas Luck.
Won by Shd., Nk, 3 lengths
Time: 1 minute 29 1/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 66. Places Rs. 19, Rs. 17 and Rs. 27.

THE TANSA PLATE—Distance 1 1/2 miles.
Mr. R. J. Sigtia's SUN-YAT-SEN 9-0 Evans 1
Maharaja of Bhavnagar's EMBASSY ROW 8-9 Khade 2
M/s. P. P. Mistry and K. J. K. Irani's WINDSOR PIE 9-7 Jones 3
Major A. Svamvur's HERE'S HOW 7-9 Sibbritt 4
Not run: Cyrenaica, Sea Log, Tangent.
Won by 1 1/2 lengths, 1 1/2 lengths, 1 1/2 lengths.
Time: 2 minutes 46 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 65. Places Rs. 18, Rs. 18 and Rs. 14.

THE ALI BIN TALIB MEMORIAL PLATE Division I—Distance 6 furlongs.
Maharaja of Gwalior's MICKY MOUSE 9-12 Sibbritt 1
Maharani of Kolhapur's JARIR 8-0 Khade 2
M/s. Mehta and Hope's KING HILAL 7-10 Kheem Singh 3
Mr. J. D. Banatwalla's ALA HONAK 8-2 West 4
Not run: Sukab Ramzi.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 38. Places Rs. 23, Rs. 39 and Rs. 33.

SYED-JINNAH TALKS LAST 9 HOURS

BOMBAY, Saturday.

Mr. G. M. Syed President of the Sind Provincial Muslim League who arrived here by air from Karachi yesterday, met Mr. M. A. Jinnah, to-day, at the League President's residence at Mount Pleasant Road. The interview lasted nearly nine hours.

Approached by a "Chronicle" representative Mr. Syed declined to divulge the nature of talks at present, but said he was meeting Mr. Jinnah again to-morrow.

Headline Control Order Goes

CALCUTTA, Feb. 10: The Headline Control Order has been cancelled by H. E. the Governor of Bengal with effect to-day.

The order was promulgated on March 23, 1942, imposing certain restrictions on the size and face of types as well as the length of line of continuous type used in publishing newspapers in this province.

FIRST-RATE TENNIS MATCHES IN BANGALORE

BANGALORE, Feb. 10: After a lapse of over two years during which period exhibition of class tennis was rendered impossible owing to the paucity of balls Bangalore is to witness a series of first-class matches on the Bowring Institute Tennis Courts on February 12 and 13.

The best among India's tennis players now in action in Madras competing for laurels in the All-India Championships are expected to come to Bangalore to stage some exhibition matches. Ghaus Mahomed will be seen at play, as also many others including Sumat Misra, Yudhisthir Singh, Prem Pandhi, M. V. Bobjee, Miss L. Wooderidge, Mrs. Licence, Miss Deodhar and Miss Yausoni, Ceylon's star. The matches will be conducted under the patronage of the Dewan of Mysore.—A. P.

Lives Of A Fortress Flier

(Continued From Page 15)

could see more and more bombers and friendly fighters in the sky. The 8th air force was a growing concern. We were getting big enough to fly down the Wilhelmstrasse.

Early one March morning when we straggled into the briefing hut, there was Sgt. M. and his flash camera. Something was up, we knew. We had a feeling it was "Big B"—and we were right.

Jerry tossed everything at us that day. Their fighters swarmed all over us. But "Chow Hound" didn't get hit. I saw planes on my right and left burning. Our friends were in those roaring flames.

"Chow Hound" went to Berlin five more times, but opposition was negligible for my formation. I was raised on a farm, pitching hay and bucking wheat. But eight hours on a Berlin trip left me more tired than any day I had ever spent in the fields.

Our luck ran out on our 22nd trip. Going into a German airdrome, we ran into tracking flak—single bursts strung out in a line. It just sort of walks along with you—burst by burst.

One doesn't sit there and wait for it to catch up, you dive and pull up, changing altitudes and course. But this day, it walked right up to us. A nearby burst caught W. in his ball turret on the underside of "Chow Hound."

The sergeant called in on the interphone, in a matter-of-fact way he reported, "ball turret. I'm hit."

The radio operator and the waist gunner cranked him up out of the ball. The top turret gunner and the bombardier went back and applied a tourniquet and eased the sergeant with morphia injections.

We left formation a hundred miles from home and gunned "Chow Hound" toward home at 230 miles an hour. We circled the home 'drome once—and came in for a landing, shooting red flares.

Our squadron flight surgeon met us at the end of the taxi strip with the meat wagon to remove the wounded sergeant. He had lost considerable blood and was in the hospital about a month but he is coming along all right.

When I went on my next OP—an 11-hour haul to Stettin, 12 Forts in a formation ahead of us went down and my farm back home seemed far away

My last mission was to Paris shortaly before it fell. I saw it for the first time on a crystal-clear day—a hodge-podge of streets bisected by a crooked river. The good visibility gave German flak batteries ample opportunity to track us. I've flown "Chow Hound" 22 times over enemy territory. At the moment another officer is piloting "Chow Hound." I've told him he had better have the "Hound" still flying when I get back to 'drome from my leave—and I didn't smile when I said it, either. "Chow Hound" is really the 11th member of our crew.—USOWI.

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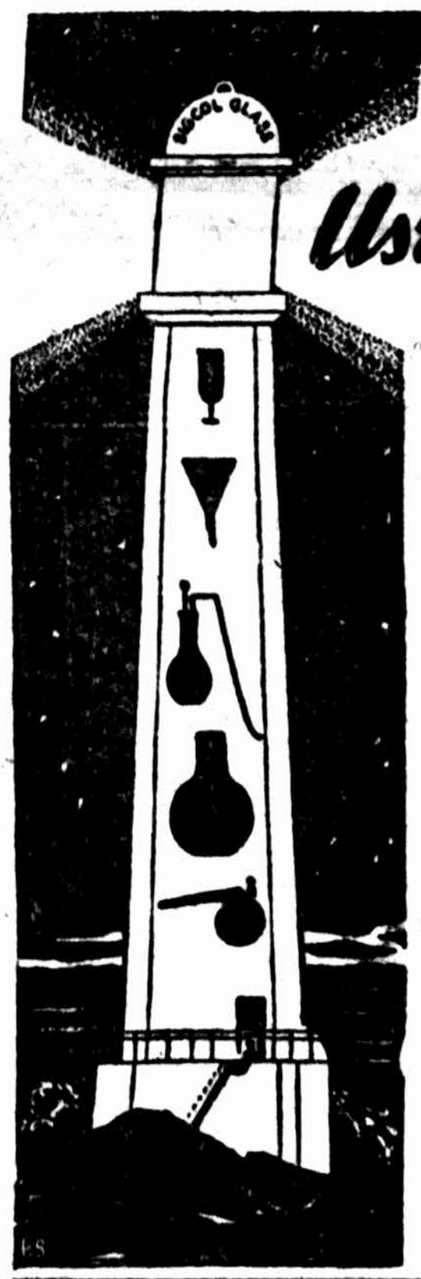

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BOMBAY UNIVERSITY SENATE STALEMATE

Motion Against Nerurkar And Akkad Lost

Chagla Welcomes Press Agitation Against Malpractices

K. T. SHAH DEPLORES THAT "ANCIENT INSTITUTION HAS FALLEN INTO DISREPUTE"

Two motions recommending to the Government of Bombay the cancellation of the appointment of Mr. V. R. Nerurkar and Mr. B. J. Akkad for alleged complicity in malpractices in connection with the matriculation examination held in March 1944 failed to be adopted by the University Senate for want of a two-thirds majority, at a requisition meeting of that body held on Saturday.

A similar motion against Mr. B. B. Vyas was not moved as the Vice-Chancellor intimated that he had submitted his resignation to the Chancellor and that his resignation had been accepted.

Sir Bomanji Wadia, Vice-Chancellor, presided.

Sir Vithal Chandavarkar was elected to the Syndicate in the vacancy cused by the designation of Dr. B. G. Vad.

Mr. B. K. Patel was elected to the Academic Council.

Prof. K. T. Shah moved: "That it be recommended to the Government of Bombay that the appointment of Mr. Vasant Ramachandra Nerurkar, a Fellow elected by the headmasters of schools in the Konkak group, be cancelled under section 17 of the Bombay University Act, 1928, in view of the fact that by his conduct in the case of Miss Leela Vasant Nerurkar at the matriculation examination held in March 1944 he has proved himself unworthy to continue as a member of the Senate."

FALLEN INTO DISREPUTE.

Prof. Shah observed that the recommendation was an unprecedented one. An investigation was undertaken by the Vice-Chancellor at the instance of the Syndicate and it was found that Mr. Nerurkar tried to influence examiners, moderators etc., to gain a certain end. The investigation had necessarily to be departmental in character. One point however, had come out clearly and that was that discoveries which followed the investigation showed that an ancient institution like the University of Bombay had fallen into disrepute. He felt that if that good name was to be redeemed and if the university was to be vindicated his proposal should be accepted.

Dr. D. L. Sahasrabudhe while supporting the motion pointed out that one of the complaints was that the person charged with malpractices was not allowed to cross-examine the witnesses. He added that the Senate had no legal powers and, therefore, it was best that the matter was handed over to Government as it was the only way out of the difficulty.

Prof. Vadekar supporting the motion said that they should not take too legalistic a view. If they were morally convinced, as he was, they should have no hesitation in voting for the motion, although it might be possible to show that there were regrettable omissions in matters of procedure.

Mr Mangaldas Mehta said that in clubs it was not a practice to allow the alleged offender to cross-examine witnesses.

"REFER BACK MOTION."

Mr. C. M. Trivedi proposed that the motion be referred back to the Syndicate. He said that an independent tribunal untouched by "power politics" should have been set up to go into the question. He asserted that the claims of natural justice had been ignored in that no provision had been made for appeal or revision. He also complained that the premature publicity given to the question was not fair to the members of the Senate.

Principal Kellog said that such inquiries should be left to the Syndicate.

A member asked if Mr. Nerurkar was present in the House and if he should not be called upon to clear his position.

The Vice-Chancellor said that Mr. Nerurkar was present but that he could neither compel nor call upon him to speak though it was open to him to do so if he chose.

Mr. B. M. Limaye supporting the motion for reference back said that it would help to get at the truth of the matter.

Dr. B. B. Yodh opposing said that such motions were usually brought forward when the members did not want to take any decision. He pointed out that in the present case it was necessary to take a decision.

Mr. K. T. Shah opposing the reference back said that his motion did no material injustice to Mr. Nerurkar. The motion was not obligatory and the authority concerned could still call for evidence, if they were not sufficiently convinced.

Sir Rustom Masani said that if the stigma could be removed it would not only uphold the reputation of the person concerned but also of the University. He wanted to know how Mr. Nerurkar had gone unheard.

Mr. K. M. Munshi supporting the motion for reference back said that during his experience of 20 years in the Senate he had not come across an instance of passing sentence of moral death on a colleague. If it was a matter of maintaining the reputation of the University he would have had no hesitation in supporting Prof. Shah's motion. But the Senate had to examine whether Mr. Nerurkar's case had gone unheard. It was not enough to be swept off by the ballyhoo of moral indignation. The Senate had to judge dispassionately whether Mr. Nerurkar was guilty and whether in condemning him the Syndicate had properly applied the principles of Natural Justice. In his opinion the Senate was a court and not a jury; much les scould it be a post office to pass on the matter to the Government. He felt that the Syndicate put upon the Vice-Chancellor an enormous burden when it asked him to inquire into the matter single-handed.

After going into the details of the report, Mr. Munshi said that an august body like the Senate was called upon to condemn a man on "must-have beens". It was unforgivable that rules and canons different from those applicable to similar other bodies should be applied in the University. He wanted to know how the university would lose its reputation or Mr. Nerurkar escape from justice if the matter was referred back to the Syndicate. If he was convicted after further inquiry the University would rise in stature. The hands of the Syndicate would also be further strengthened. He did not want that it should be said that the Senate was so stampeded into moral indignation that it buried all sense of natural justice.

SENATE—A TRIBUNAL

The Hon. Mr. Justice M. C. Chagla opposing the motion for reference back said that he was surprised to hear Mr. Munshi. It was no occasion for the exhibition of forensic ability, in which Mr. Munshi acquitted himself well. It was a painful and humiliating occasion. It was certainly an occasion for showing their moral indignation. He could vouch for the fact that the vice-Chancellor went into the question thoroughly. He contended that Mr. Nerurkar had been given full opportunity to offer his explanation.

He took the view that the Senate was the tribunal and not the Syndicate. It was for the Senate either to accept the motion or to reject it, but no purpose would be served by referring it back to the Syndicate.

Referring to the atmosphere of indignation which, it was complained the Press had built Mr. Chagla expressed his gratification at the correct lead that the Press had given. If the Press had not felt indignant, as it did, he would have thought poorly of it.

The motion for reference back was lost, 16 voting for and 57 against. The result was confirmed in a poll, the difference being that 34 voted for and 76 against.

After further discussion in which Principal K. M. Khadye, Sir Vithal Chandavarkar, Mr. Rupchand Bilaram and Mr. R. N. Vakil participated, the vice-Chancellor announced that the present strength of the Senate was 150. For a motion to be carried under Section 17 of the Act, at least 100 votes had to be cast in its favour. On a show of bands 70 persons voted for the motion. A poll showed that out of a total of 110, eighty-three voted for the motion.

Prof. K. T. Shah, then, moved a similar motion with respect to Mr. B. J. Akkad who, as chief moderator, was alleged to have influenced the allocation of marks. The motion was supported by Justice Mr. Chagla, Mr. K. M. Munshi and Mr. Trivedi.

Mr. Munshi stated that he felt satisfied that in this case all the principles which he thought should have been applied in the case of Mr. Nerurkar had been properly applied. This was a case of clear and deliberate misconduct. A poll in this case showed that 84, out of the 105 present, voted for the motion.

Prof. D. R. Gadgil, then, moved his proposal for amending the Bombay University Act so as to invest powers in the Chancellor to debar persons found indulging in unfair practices in connection with the conduct of examinations from being members of authorities of the University.

Mr. K. T. Shah moved an amendment, which "inter alia" added a proviso that such powers shall be exercised only on the recommendation of a two-thirds majority of the members present at a meeting of the Syndicate supported by a majority of members present at a meeting of the Senate.

After some discussion in which Mr. K. M. Munshi, Justice Chagla and others participated, the proposal was, on a motion by Sir Vithal Chandavarkar, referred back to the Syndicate.

The Special meeting of the Senate will resume its deliberations on Monday.

Story Of "Father Damien"

Kamiano, the story of Fr. Damien "The Leper", a play in three acts was staged by the Sodalities of St. Xavier's College, at the College Hall, on Saturday night.

The theme of the play is tse love of man for man because of the love of God. The life of "Damien the Leper"1, the missing priest whose matter-of-fact heroism led him to discover and love "the human face divine even behind the repelling mask of festering leprosy, is depicted in quite a realistic manner in this play.

And finally, "Damien the Leper", pays the full price of victory and earns his noblest title to undying glory, to his brother lepers he is truly "Kamiano" which means "one of us". Like one of them he dies—Christlike—stricken yet conquering in death.

The play will be performed again on Sunday at 5-30 p.m.

Fire Fatalities In Army Labour Camp

BANGALORE Feb. 10: One woman and four children were killed as the result of a fire which broke out on Thursday at Jalahalli near here. The fire started in one of the Labour camps and some damage was done to workers living quarters.

A Press Note issued by the headquarters of the southern army in this connection states that relief measures were promptly taken by the Army authorities and all families rendered homeless by the fire have been re-accommodated in unoccupied parts of hospitals and in other buildings.

SARDAR PATEL ATTEMPTS TO WRITE REMINISCENCES

But Gives Up Due To Lack Of Facilities

BOMBAY, Feb. 9—During the course of 31 months of detention in Ahmednagar Fort, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel wanted to write his reminiscences and fulfil the long-standing promise to his friends and admirers in Gujarat and Bombay. He attempted to write them, but, it is alleged, he abandoned the idea due to lack of certain facilities, writes the Special Correspondent of India Press Service.

It was an old request to the Sardar by his co-workers and admirers to record his reminiscences. Being pre-occupied with the Congress work, he could not devote any time on that work, when he was free outside. He had reserved it for his next prison life.

As he had to write it in his mother tongue—Gujarati—he needed the help of an assistant to take down dictation. He could not stand the strain of writing himself in the present state of his delicate health. Acharya Kripalani, the General Secretary of the A.I.C.C. who is lodged with him could not help him, as it was Gujarati.

All the same, the Sardar, a practical man though he is, has developed a thirst for study. It is stated that he has so far studied about 300 books on various subjects, ranging from literature, philosophy, economics, politics, socialism, Gandhism, etc. The authors include H. G. Wells Bernard Shaw, Tagore, Bertrand Russel, Norman Angell and others.—India Press Service.

Bardolai Sees Gandhiji

WARDHA, Feb. 10.

Mr. Gopinath Bardolai, ex-Premier of Assam, met Gandhiji this afternoon and acquainted him with the political situation in Assam. During their talks, it is learnt, they devoted to the constructive programme outlined by Gandhiji.

Mr. Bardolai will stay here for some days. He had also talks with Dr. Syed Mahmud on the communal problem.—United Press.

KIDWAI TRANSFERRED TO NAINI CENTRAL PRISON

ALLAHABAD, Feb. 9.

Mr. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai former Revenue Minister, U.P., who has been transferred from Bareilly Central jail to Naini Central prison was brought here yesterday night.

He looked a little exhausted due to the strenuous journey in his weak state of health.

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Produced & Directed by
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Starring: MRIDULA, SHAMIM, AGHA JAN, DILEEP KUMAR, & MUMTAZ ALI

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Lives Of A Fortress Flier

(By An 8th U.S.A.A.F. Pilot)

This modern aerial warfare is hard for the individual to comprehend. We do not come into actual-hand-to-hand conflict with the enemy—it is machines against machines.

We bomb Germany. An undercast hides the ground from us, but our loads strike home. With hush-hush electrical devices we spot and bomb our target.

Jerry shoots flak at us from the ground through the same clouds. He cannot see us. He aims his flak batteries by intricate radio-direction prediction. We try to cross him up with other radio devices.

Daylight aerial warfare is a scientific game of blindman's buff--played for keeps.

Running around in Germany's substratosphere with wing tanks bulging with petrol, the cockpit lined with bottles of highly inflammable oxygen and a load of short-tempered bombs a few feet aft, is nice work if it doesn't "get" you first. All there is between the fliers and Jerry's flak and fighters is a thin aluminium skin.

Six of us arrived in northern Ireland last October as a B-26 Marauder crew and were put in "cold storage." Rather than inactivity, we volunteered for B-17 Fortresses and were transferred to this 'drome.

Four men were added to our original team to bring it up to a tenman Fortress crew. After a few shakedown flights, we were ready for combat we thought.

More Curious Than Scared

My first OP was December 31st. I rode as co-pilot on a jaunt down around Bordeaux. We ran red lights that day—ran through 10/10 flak belts dodging red flicks of bursting flak and moving over to get out of the way of 20-mm. cannon shells from German fighters.

A couple of Forts went down on the Bordeaux run. Some parachutes blossomed out. I was so green on this first mission, I was more curious than scared at all the fireworks. But I soon learned.

On my second OP, still as co-pilot, we had a little excitement. Our navigator passed out from lack of oxygen. The bombardier and engineer had no sooner brought the navigator back to this world, than the engineer and top turret gunner went into a coma. We got him around all right too.

Flying at altitudes of 25,000 feet and over is dangerous. You only breath what you can take up there with you. A flier can pass out in a few seconds, unaware of his danger. There is no smothering sensation or gagging—one just goes to sleep with a sense of well-being. Because the body gives no danger warning, the danger is very real. So, we have a round-robin calls every few minutes on the intercom—just to make certain all hands are getting their oxygen all right.

On my fourth sortie I went as first pilot of my own ship with my own crew. Our new Fortress was christened "Chow Hound." We made our maiden trip with no difficulty—we were just lucky.

But it wasn't all luck. On the ground was Sgt. M., our crew chief, and his mechanics. A good-natured southerner, he was a lucky draw for us. "Chow Hound" in more than 30 missions has not had a super-charger changed. The "Hound" went 26 sorties before we made our first engine change, and 29 sorties before the other three engines were retired for old age.

Unknown to me, Sgt. M. was setting a new record for his field, fifty sorties for ships maintained by him and his men without a turn-back for mechanical failure. He didn't run that whole string on "Chow Hound," only the last half of it, the start being made on another Fortress.

One morning, as we were waiting for engine starting time an army photographer wheeled up and wanted pictures of Sgt. M. and myself. "What for?" I asked.

"Engineering office tells us if you bring 'Chow Hound' back all right today, sir, Sgt. M. will have a new record," the photographer replied.

Then Sgt. M. confessed he and his mechanics had not thought anything of a record-breaking performance until their score got above the 40 mark. Then they had started sweating me in out in earnest—but hadn't said anything to the combat crew. Just one of those superstitions around an operational base, I guess.

Getting back to my fourth OP when I piloted my own Fortress for the first time: Frankfurt, southwest Germany's largest distribution centre, was the target. Part way in we lost large quantities of oxygen.

If we dropped from formation and went to lower altitude, we surely would be jumped by enemy fighters. Some of the crew stayed on what remained of the primary source. Others plugged into walk-around bottles and sipped sparingly on the life-giving gas. We flew for hours with the bottles in our laps.

Oxygen Loss

I was plenty worried. If one man reported on the intercom. his oxygen was gone, what would I do? Risk fighter attacks at lower altitudes? Or stay in the formation and sacrifice the individual to the common good? The decision was never made as we stretched available oxygen and made it to. We were lucky.

Then came attacks on Brunswick, Wilhemshaven, more on Frankfurt, then St. Avord, Nancy, Oschersleben and Quakenbruck. We had our troubles, but nothing out of the ordinary.

On my tenth operation which was to Oschersleben, I saw what can happen to a Flying Fortress if a pilot gets careless and straggles behind the formation.

Oschersleben, when we went in for Jerry's Focke-Wulfe factory, was my 12th and toughest. "Chow Hound" was flying right wingman for the leader of the entire formation. Everything went well at the start. Our formation flowed along four miles above the ground.

We went through a flak barrage.

Flying Fortresses preparing to drop their death-dealing cargo.

A flak burst close to our plane started an oil leak in No. 3 engine. The precious fluid was lost rapidly. We stopped the engine and feathered the prop, fearing fire might otherwise break out if it continued to run and should get hot from lack of lubrication. Without jettisoning our bombs, the three remaining engines kept us up in formation.

Then enemy fighters struck. Coming in head-on, in waves of a dozen at a time, they fired 20-mm. cannon shells at our leading flight of three aircraft. We and the leader's plane were centres of attraction ... we because of feathered prop and the leader because of his position in front.

Enemy fighter pilots know a Fort with one dead prop is a good prospect for a sales talk from their cannons. If a second engine can be knocked out, the Fort will start straggling. You are cold meat then—for they can take their time to slam home more cannon shells.

Again, old lady luck smiled on us, for we came through those fighter attacks.

Then my top turret gunner ran low on ammunition. The co-pilot went back to the radio-room for another box. Dressed in bulky high-altitude clothing, he got stuck on the cat-walk in the bomb bay. His oxygen walk-around bottle was running low. When the top turret gunner got to him, the co-pilot was on the verge of passing out—there on an eight-inch cat-walk umpteen thousand feet above Germany. We fixed the co-pilot up and the gunner got his ammunition. Another tight squeak passed.

Enemy Attacks

Enemy fighters kept boring in with guns blazing.

More white puffs from Jerry's 20-mm. fighter cannons dotted the sky. A few *prima donnas* buzzed us with tail attacks. One of their shells skewered our right wing.

Giving us a radio shout, the Fortress on our right reported a fire in our wing nearest them. I couldn't see fire anyplace on top from my pilot's seat, so we kept on with the formation and bombed the Focke-Wulfe factory.

Over the channel on the way back, the number four engine, the outboard engine on the right wing, sputtered to a stop. We came the rest of the way on two engines, letting down through a freezing overcast. My windows iced up. Scraping some peepholes to look out, we set "Chow Hound" down at over a hundred miles an hour on her home 'drome.

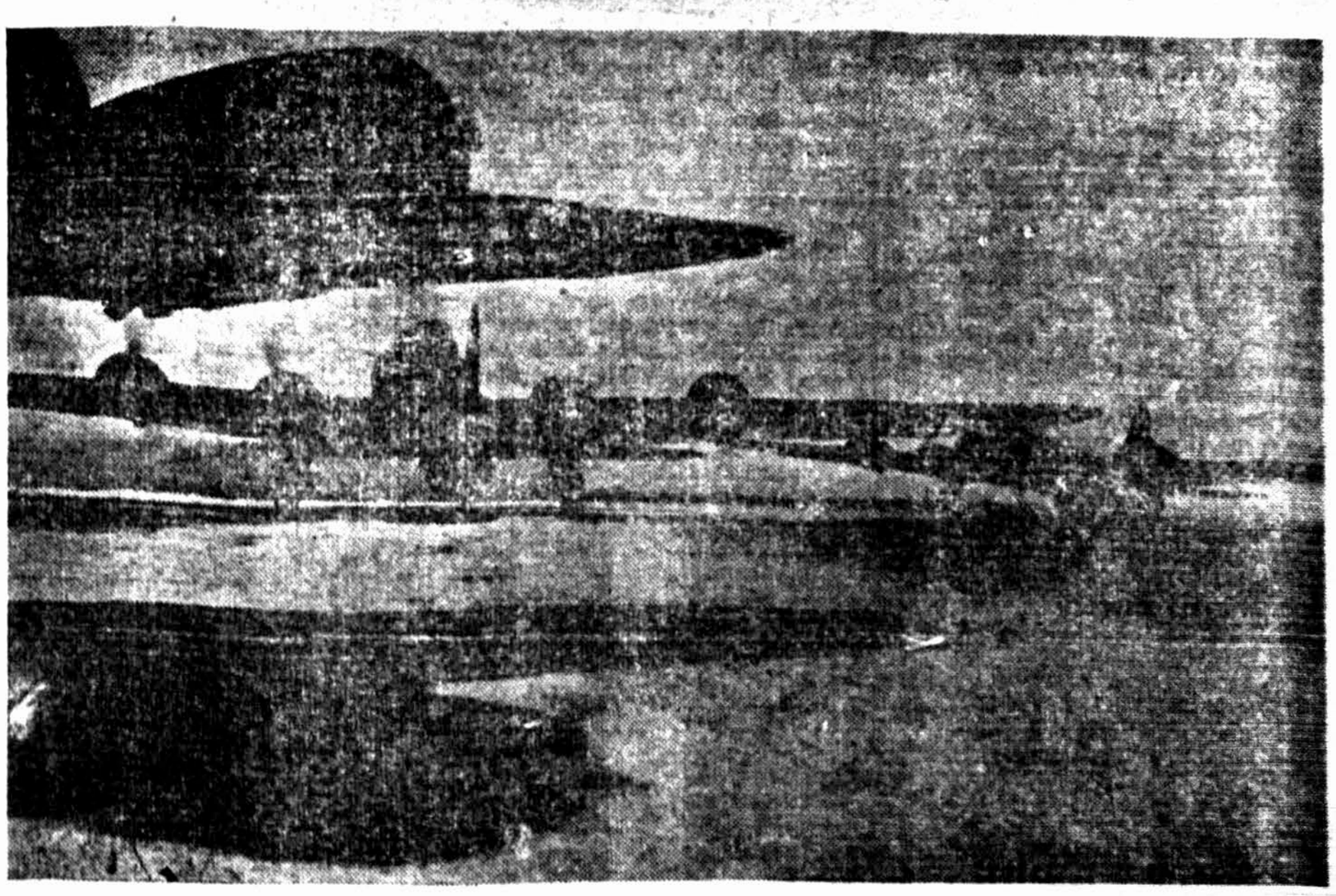
Then—and only then—we found one cannon shell had pierced two petrol tanks, setting one on fire as reported by the other Fortress pilot. Most of the fire had burned inside the wing. A hole as large as a man's head was burned through the spongy rubber tank liner. One of the main spars, pierced by shellfire, was partially melted. Why something didn't explode or break up in mid-air is another credit on old lady luck's scoreboard.

During the fighter attacks, the gunners had been busy, according to the navigator's log book. Officially, we received credit for two destroyed and two probables.

Through January and February nights the R.A.F. had been bombing Germany's capital city. The Yanks had yet to see "Big B."

But every time we went out we

(Continued On Page 13)



THEIR FOUR GREAT MOTORS ROARING, FLYING Fortresses take off from somewhere in Britain to bomb Germany. The crews of these famous bombers have seen some of this war's most dramatic action against the enemy.

Reinterpretation Of Maratha History

MARATHA HISTORY: (Re-examined) (1295-1707) by Professor S. R. Sharma (Karnatak Publishing House Bombay 2).

A fresh approach to and a fresh survey of the total Maratha History is now necessary. There is a lot of new contemporary evidence. The old British interpretations have found to be vitiated by the justifications of their conquests and rule, and by the condemnation of their predecessors' opponents and the conquered. We are also now in a better position to value the nature and consequences of the past events and the character and achievements of the historical personalities by comparing the Mughals, the Marathas and the British during their period of conquests.

Prof. S. R. Sharma claims to examine again the Maratha History and to lift it out of the artificial ruts of conquerors' fallacies and of religious, racial and caste fulminations and to view it as a historical process and phenomenon more realistically. History is not purely a story of racial or religious, caste or class struggles. Its currents, characters and castes are many. We must also not loose sight of the territorial milieu and human hankering when we consider these distorted views of history.

The author begins from the fall of the Yadavas, and tries to analyse the main causes or events which led its easy fall. In the first crisis of a foreign invasion the Marathas were found wanting, both the rulers and the people. There were then no Marathas as such. There was only a little spasmodic resistance. But were the people dead culturally and intellectually? No. The 13th Century in Maharashtra is strangely a Century of a political fall and of a religio-social awakening. Till the 17th century these two processes continued without influencing each other ostensibly. But suddenly the people and the land awaken and their dormant energies and will to live independently find a great leader in the person of Shivaji who changes their destiny and starts them on the career of being the latest native rulers of India before the British.

Prof. Sharma calls the period between 1295 to 1595 a period of tutelage. I would designate it as a period of trial. Did the Maratha learn anything new? The ambition for independence was there. But there was no conscious unity, no able leadership, no new opportunity. It came when the North and the South —its foreign rulers—entered into a new internecine war. No permanent state can be founded on a religious basis by a conquering few. There is an inherent process of disintegration in such a foreign state, based on political slavery and religious fanaticism. The permanent conflict of wills remains, and the advantage is on the side of the people of the soil as soon as an opportunity offers and a real leadership is born.

The keynote of the 17th century was a number of revolts against the new imperialism of the Mughals. It is to the credit of the Marathas—the first rebels—that they did more then conquer India. They converted her to Swarajya, Shivaji was not only a grand strategist, he was a great statesman and a pioneer Swarajist. He laid the foundations of a new order and ideal in India. To achieve a strong military organisation and leadership was the first thing necessary. He gave them both. He laid the basis of his power during 1642-1647 in Maval and on Mavalis, in the valleys, mountains and forests of the western ghats and in their sturdy, free spirited, durable and daring people. He brought them under and bound them by his leadership.

The Marathas fought five rounds in their sixty years war of independence (1647-1707) with their enemies who surrounded their nascent Swarajya. They followed primarily a policy of direct action against their imperialistic designs of the complete conquest of India.

Prof. Sharma's ambition is to re-examine all the evidence afresh and re-interpret Maratha history. All history is contemporary according to Croce. We shall wait for his second volume to appear before we can assess the real merits of his work. The compass of the book is small and the events and characters are many. Therefore it is not possible to appreciate his judgments fully as they contain mainly generalised conclusions and as the details can not be given in full. But his attempt is welcome. He has emphasized significant events in the historical process of the rise of the Marathas, and has acquainted us with the underlying currents and inspiring personalities and factors in that unique process. He has not engulfed himself and his work in the transitory quarrels and antagonisms of smaller men and their narrow loyalties. He has not given them false importance as some of his predecessors have done by emphasizing one factor or the other. His is a total view based on permanent results, not on passing conflicts. His is a study of an outstanding political and cultural movement in a larger historical movement of India.

S. V. P.

SHORT STORIES IN URDU

JANNAT-E-NIGAH: By Mirza Fida Ali Khanjar Lucknavi. Published by Alibhai Sharaf Ali and Co., Book-sellers, 373, Ibrahim Rahmatullah Road, Bombay 3. Pp. 243. 8 1/2" x 5 1/2". Thick cardboard cover.

This is a collection of 20 short stories covering the different phases of human life. The author's approach to the various problems discussed in these stories is no doubt sympathetic and at the same time wonderfully free from vulgarity. As regards his style it may be said with confidence that it is on the whole simple although at times he uses high-sounding Arabic and Persian words just to fit appropriate situations. He uses Hindi words and expressions with equal ease especially when dealing with Hindu subjects. The writer holds woman in high esteem and in every story wherever he portrays women, he never fails to assign her a worthy role. The stories which are all matter of fact are sure to be relished by all alike. Hakim Abdul Ali "Fughan" of St. Xavier's College, contributes an introduction bringing out all the salient features of Khanjar's stories as contained in this collection.

BOOKS AND THEIR AUTHORS

"INDIAN CRICKETERS"

[Indian Cricketers (second edition 1944) Edited by Mr S K Roy, Published by The Illustrated news, 2o3-2B, Cornwallis Street, Calcutta Price Rs. 3.]

The second edition of the Indian Cricketers shows a good deal of improvement over its first number. It contains life sketches of 12o prominent Cricketers of India with 32 art plates. Several interesting records n connection with the Cricket Championship of India and other tournaments and also foreign toors and visits ennoble it pages. It is an excellent production worth the price. If Cricketers themselves help, it can be made still more informative and attractive in future.

J.C.M.

Soviet Asia

Messrs Avanthi Prakashan have just brought out SOVIET ASIA: The Power Behind the U.S.S.R. by K. S. Hirlekar, with a foreword by Sir S. Radhakrishnam (price Rs. 1o/-). The book gives a vivid introduction to the Soviets through their marvellous achievements during the last few decades, in the Economic, Industrial, agricultural and cultural fields, and contains 15 two coloured full-page maps and 7 illustrations on art paper.

A detailed review will appear in these columns later.

My dear Sisters & Brothers,

How are you usually greeted by the elders—by the friends of your parents and by your other relatives? Probably, something like this: "You are getting a big boy, aren't you?" "What beautiful curly hair!" "A nice little lad, indeed!" "The girlie's eyes are marvellous, aren't they?" Each greeting is accompanied by a condescending manner, a sugar-sweet tone of voice, and a basic lack of sincerity, all of which, I am sure, do not deceive you one bit.

The curly-headed bonny little baby buries her head in her mother's sari and refuses to emerge until the admirer of her curly hair has passed on down the street. She is not trying to be coy. She is downright ill at ease. One's hair is one's personal property, and conversation about it is embarrassing. Children suffer from self-consciousness just as we elders do. It should not be hard for most of us to remember this and speak accordingly.

* * *

Supposing there is a friend of your parents come to spend a week-end in your house. I do not know if he is as much "chummy" with you—but he could profitably do so by using the same kind of approach as he would to an adult he was meeting for the first time. He should really learn what some of your interests are—at least know what most children of your age are interested in.

If he cannot find out whether you have a particular fondness for 'planes or radios or Diesel engines, or any one of the mechanical wonders that modern youngsters become attached to, he may just play safe by conversing about all of them, or about other children, or about animals, or about toys. He can meet you on any ground so long as that ground can be shared by people of your particular age.

* * *

Second in nuisance value to the "silly-greeters" are those who talk above children. These are the people who conversationally ignore the existence of children. Conversation is scaled to the adults who are present; the child is left dangling. An occasional word may sound vaguely familiar to him but the balance of the conversation is entirely foreign. His only escape from such an unbearable situation is to go to sleep or to perform some anti-social act which will bring him some attention and, incidentally some conversation he can understand.

Third in the list are those people who may be called "talk-arounders." Various devices are used. There is the familiar one of spelling out words that the child mustn't hear; also the lapsing into some other language for a few phrases. These are examples of the methods to which we adults stoop to take advantage of children. How do the victims feel about it? Much as we ourselves would feel if two people used a similar technique on us. Fourth and perhaps most offensive are the people who talk beneath children. These are the people responsible for "baby-talk."

* * *

What must a sensible child think of such silliness? If these people could listen to the conversation between adults and children in a nursery school for an hour, they would discover that children really can understand and speak the plain language, and unadulterated.

Last but by no means least are the plain "bores" who consider conversation with a child a one-sided affair with the child doing all the listening. Surely these people have never listened long enough to hear the lovely rhythm and good common sense that flows from the mouths of children!

* * *

Shri B. G. Kher, our President, is touring round Kathiawar, and started the first Balkan-ji-Bari there at Bhavnagar. Boys and girls of Khar Balkanji-Bari visited Dadar School for the Blind, and had a programme of songs, dances, stories and light refreshments with its inmates. Marine Lines Balkan-ji-Bari had an excursion to Ambarnath, and Ghat Kopar to Trombay. Tardeo Balkan-ji-Bari visited the Prince of Wales' Museum and the Model Engineers' Exhibition. Rajpipla Balkan-ji-Bari organised an Exhibition of Manuscript Magazines.

Outside Bombay, the Sind Provincial Balkan-ji-Bari has decided to start Bal Mandirs under the auspices of its every Branch. Shrimati Parvati J. Gidvani, its President, went on a tour of Sind, and visited the Balkan-ji-Bari Centres at Sukkur, Mirpur Mathelo, Rahrki, Dahrki, Ghotki, Hyderabad, Nawabshah, Halani, Mithiani, Naushahro Feroz and Mahrabpur. A Balkan-ji-Bari Group was inaugurated at Mylapore, Madras, with the efforts of Mr. A. V. Kuppuswami, of P. S. High School, who has been appointed Assistant Organiser for South India.

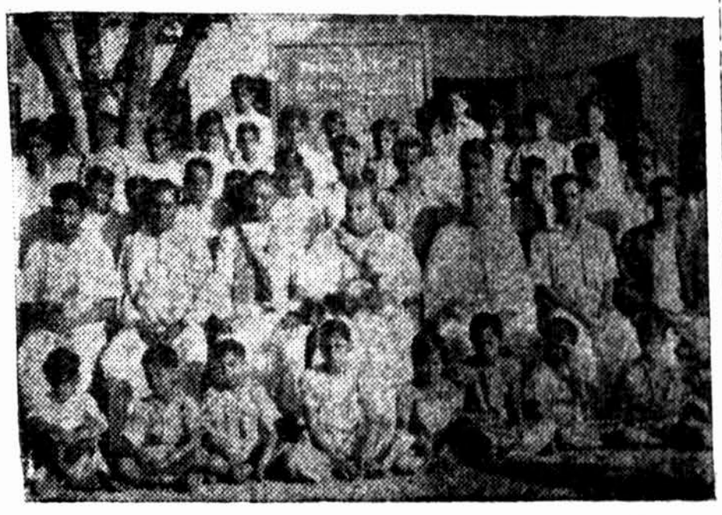
* * *

We are in receipt of a report of Sri Krishna Vidyalya, maintained by the Anandashram at Ramnagar, Kanhangad, and are glad to note that the puplis in this school, boys and girls, number about 1oo and they mostly belong to the poor and backward classes including Harijans. They are given free education and free meals and are also provided with free cloth ing, books and writing materials. The secular education imparted in the institution is combined with training in useful handicrafts such as hand-spinning, handloom weaving, leather-work, manufacture of horn articles, paper-making, carpentry, etc.

With a view to making the Students selfreliant, industrious and of equal vision, the type of education imparted to them has been based on true Indian culture, having a universal background for their physical, mental and spiritual well-being. In framing the syllabi, guidance has been drawn from the Wardha Scheme and other recognised methods of education, suited to the local conditions. Cramming and undue mental strain have been avoided. We wish the institution every success which it so well deserves!

All Good Wishes from
Your loving,
Dada

"Cullinan"
Khar - Bombay 52



Boys and girls of (left) the Dahanu Balkan-Ji-Ba. and (right) the recently started Branch at Mylapore, Madras.

ART NOTES & COMMENTS

BY D. G. VYAS

New Dangers to Indian Dance—Expositions by dance-authorities—Symbolic Abhinaya—the soul—Development within classical bounds—Indian radios in Indian designs—Fate of Indian architecture—Mr. Silam's tip to the Corporation.

The classical dance-art of India has within the two millenniums of the Vikrama Era, survived political upheavals, social ostracism and professional conservatism. It has now to grapple with new hostile forces in rampant amateurism, indiscreet modernism, patronal dilettantism and pedantic "critickinism"; and it must survive them also. The stage has arrived when it is of utmost importance to establish the authenticity and not merely the antiquity of the wonderful art.

EXIT AMATEURISM.

Among the sources of authenticity are some of the hereditary gurus and a few lifetime votaries who are reputed to be the pioneers and who reverentially look to the former for inspiration. The All-India Dance Festival, which was recently organised in Bombay, brought together, on a common platform, such accredited exponents of the different schools and thereby provided a rare opportunity to the impartial observers to take stock of the time honoured traditions and to evaluate the much boosted modern trends in comparison with the same.

One of the impressions, which the expositions by the few dance-authorities has left, is that amateurism interpreted in the sense of raw and imperfect trainaing has no place in the sphere of Indian dance. To be a dancer one must be a finished artiste. The aspirant must be almost equal in knowledge to the guru, who in his turn, should be a master-exponent. His ambition should be to emulate and not to compete without qualifications to do so with the masters. To him dance should be a life-long devotion and not a mercenary interest. But the present situation is quite the opposite. Attempts are made by the fast multiplying race of amateurs to outflank the hereditary gurus and a few pioneers and to frustrate their noble work of retaining the classic characteristics of the dance art.

Propaganda and trade are the two evils fostered by amateurism especially in the sphere of dance and music. The variety stage and screen have furnished a fertile soil for the germination and growth of every evil "ism" causal as well as resultant. Muses retire when mammon reigns supreme. Lure of gold is the first cause of amateurism. Lure of overnight stardom is the second. Acquisition of sound knowledge and training is eschewed by the amateurs—the commercialists and stardom-hunters, because it costs time and energy. Propagandism is resorted to by both as popularity through every means except merits is their main objective. True art recedes into the background, when amateurs masquerade as adepts and when critickins sit in judgment on art and bolster up their favourites as great artistes, irrespective of their merits.

AWAY WITH MODERNISM

Modernism is the enemy number two of the classical dance. It is the Creed of the Anti-traditionalist and the refuge of the ignoramus. Dancer-modernists with their retinue of Critickins and Connoisseurasters, who are misleading the credulous people with their high sounding shibboleths, have not yet explained what their modernism exactly means. Will they reply whether any new varieties of "drashtis", hand-gestures or gaits on the lines of symbolism peculiar to Indian dance are added to its gesture vocabulary in recent years. Pantomime, dance non-descript, pastiche of heterogenous influences and improvisation which are paraded as modern trends do not constitute development, which to be worth its name, should be within the bounds of the classical traditions.

The structure and soul of dance should not undergo the slightest change if modernism is interpreted as modification of the method of presentation to suit new environments. The gurus and authoritative exponents clearly pointed out that the classical technique retains its integrity, even if the dance is presented on the modern stage—in new environments. Dance cannot be decried as archaic or static because the themes of new compositions happen to be mythological. The modernists, whose stock-in-trade is the anti-traditional slogans should be told that the technique is the most important aspect of the art with which they are twiddling. A dance composition that is Indian in its theme and not in its technique will be unclassical.

CLASSICAL TECHNIQUE.

The few authentic expositions in the festival were fleeting but elaborate demonstrations of the classical modes of the various schools which have survived through two thousand years. What they presented on a comprehensive scale is epitomised as "sing the song with the mouth, interpret the sense of the song with the hands, express moods with the eyes and keep tune with the feet." The Indian dance is executed with the whole body. It is a head-to-foot art. All the expressions, actions, movements, gaits and fleeting attitudes are governed by the principles of the symbolic abhinaya technique which is the soul of the classical dance.

The symbolic technique is as flexible and resourceful as it is elaborate and complex and is rich in possibilities for developmental or creative endeavour. Those who are competent to make such an endeavour are a few experienced gurus and pioneer-exponents to whom dance is a mission of life and in whose hands it has made definite progress. Amateurs ought to learn from them the lesson to esteem dance, be it a vocation or an avocation to them, as a great cultural trust and a sacred responsibility to the nation. Modernists should also learn the bitter truth from them that the thorough understanding of the classical technique is the first stop towards developmental endeavour and is the only qualification to pronounce judgment on Indian dance.

TO OPPONENTS OF KATHAK

Kathak and Bharat Natya were represented in their fullness with due emphasis on their Nritta and Nritya types and with the progress made by them in recent years in the able hands of the pioneer-exponents the former especially found a good opportunity to vindicate its claim as a highly developed technique. Guru Achchhan maharaj—the G. O. M. of his school revealed the beauty of foot work and rendered a few rare bhavas with eloquent expressions. Guru Shambhu Maharaj his youngest brother and a great master who followed him two days later took up the gauntlet and proved to the hilt that the charges levelled by interested quarters against kathak that the same is mere acrobatics of Foot-work and is non-interpretational were entirely false. With his masterly exposition of the rich and resourceful abhinaya aspect of his technique Shambhu Maharaj must have proved a tartar to some of the pseudo-critics who are conducting a campaign to vilify kathak.

The compact programme presented by Madame Menaka reasserted kathak as a classical technique having ample scope for interpretation. Madame Menaka gave extra dimension to kathak with profusion of abhinayas for underlining the bhakti bhavas as distinct from shringara and re-achieved synthesis of high classical music and dance with padas in the dhruvapad or dhamar style as a background to Nrityas. In Dan Leela ballet a successful creative endeavour—she touched the high-water-mark of choreographic art and re-emphasised the inherent interpretational capabilities of the kathak technique. Pandit Ramnarayan Mishra revealed himself as a versatile and finished artiste by interpreting the bhavas of the two emotionally opposite roles in Dan Leela and a solo. He was all mobility and full of agility and his role in 'Dan-Leela', revealed the Lasya that is Kathak.

BHARAT NATYA IN FULLNESS.

Shrimati Rukminidevi in her two recitals gave a comprehensive exposition of the heavy technique of Bharat Natya in all its aspects. She reaffirmed her command over abhinayas and rendered a creditable account of the pioneering work done by her in raising Bharat Natya to high standards. "Kurvanji"—a temple-dance balletised by her in the Bharat Natya technique bears a distinct impress of her creative touch and makes a valuable addition to the repertoire of kalakshetra.

Shrimati Balasaraswati, in her solo performance, represented in its full glory the hereditary school of Bharat Natya with shringara bhavas as the dominant note of her interpretational themes with her profuse vocabulary of the symbolic expressions, the time and gestures she rose to the maximum height of the abhinaya. She was equally perfect in the execution of Nritta.

TWO INSEPARABLES

Students of dance would have noted a common, but none-the-less vital link between the Kathak and Bharat Natya recitals. Both are highly stylised dances, keeping the 'Tal' and keeping up to the 'Bhavas' of the musical piece, which they seek to interpret. The dance follows the music and at all times the melody of the song synchronises with the rhythm of dance. The link between classical music and classical dance is irrevocable. The kathak abd Bharat Natya recitals have shown that for the dance to be classical, it should have classical music as its backbone. Appreciation of dance therefore implies a thorough knowledge of music, a moot point which young aspirants should not miss.

INDIAN RADIOS:

Messrs. Motwane Radio Manufacturing Company Limited have obtained the consent of the Central Government for the issue of the capital of Rupees fifty lakhs for floating a limited liability company with the object of manufacturing in this country, radio receiving sets, transmitting apparatus and allied goods. The company will be a pioneer of a new industry. Any innovation in the scientific apparatus of the radio, when introduced by it, will rank as India's proud contribution to science.

Leaving the scientist's role aside for the moment, one is inclined to suggest that the radio industry, if judiciously developed, should stimulate the art and crafts traditions of India to resume their progress. The receiving set made in India should be Indian in appearance—in the design of its Cabinet. Besides the carpenters, the traditional craftsmen like wood-carvers, ivory and inlaid workers should be brought together and invite to produce the typically Indian designs of the Cabinets. Will the Government and the directors of the company approach the radio-industry from the artistic angle also?

DECLARE STANDARDS.

A scheme to send abroad in the autumn of this year about 500 students for training in technical subjects directly related to the various plans of post-war development now under consideration or in proposition was explained in a press note issued recently. Town planning and housing are among the subjects which have, so far, appeared on the list of the post-war development front at New Delhi. But no scheme is known to have been formulated for providing facilities in this country for education in town-planning, civic art and architecture.

Architecture is, according to the press note, declared to be one of the subjects directly related to post-war development; and the Indian students will receive training in it abroad and not in India with distinctive architectural traditions. One would like to know the post-war architectural standards fixed by the Government and the place which Indian architecture is assigned in the official scheme. Such an inquiry will not appear irrelevant when new architects, who will be trained abroad, will probably be inconversant with India's traditions and requirements.

CRY IN WILDERNESS.

While addressing the Indian Institute of Architects on January 18, Mr. S. L. Silam made a suggestion to the Municipal Corporation to seek coordination of the efforts of the different organisation for the purposes of the reconstruction of the area devastated by explosions last year. He is said to have discussed a town-planning scheme which, from his point of view, should make provision for civic amenities, like a town hall, libraries and amusement houses.

A detailed scheme with emphasis on the cultural and artistic amenities was discussed in these columns a few months ago, but it has, so far, proved to be a cry in wilderness. It is gratifying to note that Mr. Silam has struck a note to which the ears of the corporation are not attuned. He should continue agitation and make his voice heard effectively within the walls of the corporation hall. The devastated area must be artistically designed and reconstructed.

"The Buddha"—A composition in relief by Mr. K. G. Sulakhe, Student, Sir J. J. School of Art.

CONFIDENTIAL PACKET

(Continued from Page 6)

you see how I was able to prove it? The light went off not without my knowledge. Olya Vasilyeva did not go anywhere, but was here behind the door. And you, Henrich Franzevich, an old wolf have fallen into the trap and took the bait offered by a "simple Russian girl..." (To Olya) keep a watch on him, Olya. In the meanwhile, I... (She takes the receiver) Connect me with Zaitsev... Comrade Zaitsev, please come here at once. It's urgent. He's that very feller, the same whom we suspected. Come at once! (Puts back the receiver) And really, my dear Olya, shouldn' we go to our "Maritsa" aft— Don't we deserve it? [1]

The LAST PAGE

Conducted by CHRONICLER

The Year Is 1944!

CALCUTTA Oct. 4: 35 deaths of "sick destitutes" occurred in hospitals in 3 days, ending October 3. 65 were admitted to the hospitals, 5 were discharged.

CALCUTTA, Oct. 6: 5 "sick destitutes" died. 34 admissions. 8 discharged.

CALCUTTA, Oct. 11: 8 "sick destitutes" died. 42 admissions. 3 discharged.

CALCUTTA, Oct. 25: 7 'sick destitutes" died.

CALCUTTA Nov. 8: 11 "sick destitutes" died. 38 admissions.

CALCUTTA Nov. 28: 23 "sick destitutes" died. 69 admissions. 23 discharged.

CALCUTTA, Dec. 15: 11 "sick destitutes" died. 61 admissions. 16 discharged.

CALCUTTA, Dec. 23: 8 'sick destitutes" died. 18 admissions. 8 discharged.

The Year Is 1945!!

CALCUTTA, Jan. 29: 8 'sick destitutes" died. 8 admissions.

★

A young reader from Karachi, Anand Golani has sent these figures collected from a single newspaper—the SIND OBSERVER. He adds: "In 4 months (October, November, December and January) a total of 116 "sick destitutes" died; 270 were new admissions and 58 were discharged.

"We do not know the fate of 212 people who were (admitted but not discharged. These news only relate to "sick destitutes" omitting deliberately other news of (the victims of) cholera, smallpox and malaria in Calcutta. There is another news for you:

> WADHWAN Dec. 15 (1944): Kathiawar is in the grip of a Food Famine. Bajri costs as much as 11 rupees a maund. People have had to go without food for as long as three days at a stretch.—A. P. (Sind Observer.)

Anand Golani concludes his letter; "I have fulfilled my duty towards 116 "sick destitutes" by informing you about them. It is left to you whether you are capable of hearing their call or not"

★

How Long? How Long?

Human conscience is an elastic contraption. Increasing pressure on it produces a corresponding resilience. One day we may be shocked by the news of a single death by starvation, in a month's time we get used to the grim phenomenon and even the news of a hundred deaths by starvation leaves us unmoved. Soon thousands might be dying and yet we mourn for them with little more than a sigh of regret as we read of it in some obscure corner of the morning newspaper. The declining scale on which newspapers featured the mounting tragedy of Bengal is proof enough of how we are liable to get inured to grim realities by their very enormity and wide extent.

The unprecedented horror and indignation roused all over the country by the Bengal famine, the wave of compassion and humanitarianism, the awakening of our charitable instincts—all that seems to be things of the past. Starvation in Bengal has been relegated to two-line paras on the back-pages of the newspapers and to the backs of our minds. And yet (as Anand Golani has done well to point out) people are STILL DYING OF STARVATION in Calcutta streets, famine conditions STILL prevail in large areas of Bengal, and are slowly spreading to other parts of the country. Our social conscience needs another stab of reality to be awakened and made aware of the horror that still persists.

I have said it before and I say it again that the right of existence is the FIRST, the BASIC, the most important right of human beings. Man doesn't live by bread alone—but man cannot live without bread! So long as people are starving, all education, all culture, all art have no meaning. Food for the people must get priority over everything else—over schools colleges, universities, railways, aeroplanes, courts, assemblies, councils, international conferences! I would even say that Food is more important than even Freedom, if I did not know that one needs Freedom to secure food for the people. Any government that does not provide this elementary need of the people deserves to be removed—whether it is the Casey—Nazimuddin Government of Bengal or the Wavell Cabinet in New Delhi. The grim news-paragraphs printed at the head of this column are atonce an indictment of imperialism—and its death-knell!

But they are also an indictment of our own dormant conscience—of all of us, the people and the leaders, the journalists and the newspaper readers, the rich and the poor—the rich for their cruel indifference, the poor for their unfortunate suicidal, contentment born out of centuries of serfdom and slavery! One tenth of the deaths caused by starvation in Bengal produced upheavals in other lands. How long shall WE endure the sight of our fellow-beings starving to death? How long? How long?

★

Dutch 'Reds' Want Dutch Empire?

A valued friend of the LAST PAGE sends me the following quotation from the "New Leader" the organ of the Independent Labour Party of Britain:—

> **According to the DAILY WORKER (U. S. A.) the Dutch Communist Party's new programme demands "the restoration of the Dutch Colonial Empire in its entirety and its democratic constitution." (This is not a quotation from a comic paper but, let us repeat, from the American DAILY WORKER.**

To which my valued correspondent has appended a longish foot-note from which I reproduce the following:

"No wonder you miss issues of NEW LEADER and don't get ASIA any more. The latter alone took up the case of the Dutch Colonials and people of Malaya and Indo-China. Why is there nothing about these people in our leftist Press? The people of Bali and Java still dance the same dances from Mahabharata and Ramayana as the people of Malabar .....even if you don't care for the old ties, we are brothers-in-arm in the fight against Imperialism.....

"Do you remember the United News newsreel (released through USOWI) in which President Roosevelt is shown promising to Queen Wilhelmina to restore to her 60 or 70 million Netherland East Indies subjects The Dutch Queen may be third cousin of Roosevelt, but are these 60 million people her chattel slaves, a trinket that a gallant can offer to a lady to win a smiles from her painted lips? The Four Freedoms!

"Indo-China won the approbation of Oswald Spengler because the French administration there taught the "natives" useful arts and technics but withheld liberal education from them. No department for Humanities in their educational departments, no political leaders and no political movements—the Droit Administratif of French Colonial Empire sees to that.

"Same in Java and Bali, perhaps worse..... No books on politics ever get through, no Fabian tracts, no Harold Laski, no text-books in politics. Javanese students used to come to Shantiniketan for "general" education.....

"I have met no other people more sensitive, more artistic to their finger-tips (coming from a Bengali this is high praise) and more freedom-loving. Their hatred for the Dutch is beyond our comprehension.....

"Even Burma has got a blue-print from the Tories, why no Charter of freedom for them (the people of the Dutch Indies)? Why no attempt to link up with the underground in Java and Bali? Why are WE silent?"

★

Will Some Comrade Oblige?

The local headquarters of the Communist Party of India is housed in a building named RAJBHAWAN (strange, isn't it, that the "Chronicle" should be published from RED Building!) Before we can allow ourselves to read in "Raj Bhawan" an unconscious symbolism of the Communists' new attitude to Imperialism would some Comrade answer the following questions which are put strictly with a view to elicit information and not in a spirit of carping criticism:—

(1) Have the Dutch Communists really demanded the "restoration of the Dutch Colonial empire"? And what was the "democratic constitution" in the Dutch empire which is sought to be restored?

(2) What is the specific attitude of the French Communists to the future of the French Empire? Do they stand for its UNCONDITIONAL liquidation or not? Or do they also believe in "trusteeship"?

(3) What is the attitude of the Italian Communists towards the Italian Empire?

(4) Why are American Communist organs like DAILY WORKER and NEW MASSES so strangely (and consistently) silent on the question of India? (It couldn't be their preoccupation with domestic affairs as they devote any number of pages to USSR, Greece, Yugoslavia, China etc.) Why don't they publish detailed articles on the Indian question—at least the views of the Indian Communists? Where does India fit into Earl Browder's "Teheran" theory?

★

Book News

It was a foregone conclusion that there will be a plethora of "replies" to Beverley Nichols' book VERDICT ON INDIA—though, in my opinion, it is too stupid and too obviously "inspired" by imperialist motives to deserve the honour of a reply.

It is significant, however, that the very first reply to appear in book form should be from an Englishwoman—Gertrude Murray's VERDICT ON BEVERLEY NICHOLS (Hind Kitabs, Re. 1|8). I have just skipped through it and it seems to me to be a well-meaning and sincere but obviously hurried and sketchy "verdict" on Mr. Nichols.

A more appropriate reply to Mr. Nichols has been provided by another Englishwoman — Margaret Pope (You remember her, don't you?). IMPERIALISM IN ACTION (Hind Printing Works, Bombay 4, Rs. 2|8) was, of course, written before "Verdict" appeared and, indeed, it does not even mention Mr. Nichols' name, yet by exposing imperialism in all its naked horror, it also exposes imperialist propagandists of this type.

May this "Matric Fail" scribe, however, remind Messrs. "Padamnath Tole, M.A., P. J. Modi M.Sc., V. C. Suvarna, Esqr.", who have edited this volume and "C. C. Marfatia, Esqr., B.A." who "took a keen interest" in the work, and "Mr. J. M. Mahimker, B.A., Proprietor, Hind Printing Works" that such snobbish and blatant display of degrees and "Esquires" is only additional evidence of "Imperialism in action"!

★

Clare

Here are some amusing stories about Clare Boothe Luce (see page 3) from "PROFILES", a collection of character sketches selected from "The New Yorker." The wife of the editor-publisher of "Time" is not very popular with her own sex, even less so among prominent women in the writing profession. At a dinner party in Hollywood, a friend of Clare spoke at length of Miss Boothe's generosity and ended by declaring, "Clare Boothe is always kind to her inferiors." Mrs. Dorothy Parker, the columnist, looked up wanly and enquired: "And where does she find them?"

Another story (probably fictitious) refers to the incident of these two ladies happening to enter a restaurant at the same time. "Age before beauty", said Miss Boothe to Mrs. Parker, politely offering to make way for Dorothy. "And pearls before swine", Mrs. Parker replied, sweeping ahead.

On the occasion of the London premiere of her play "The Women", Clare met Bernard Shaw whom she admires greatly and whose photograph she keeps on her dressing table for inspiration. As soon as she met the great playwright, she said breathlessly, "Oh, Mr. Shaw, if it weren't for you I wouldn't BE here!" Shaw said "Oh", and then nodding understandingly, added, "Let me see, what was your dear mother's name?"

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Hyderabad To Bombay Via London!

Long live the bureaucrats who demolished a bridge which was never built, making the tax-payer pay both for the construction which was not done and for the demolition which did not have to be carried out (as Mr. Nauman revealed in the Assembly), and who use a dozen foolscap pages to draft a letter and then get it typed on the back of an old letter. They are the ones who would calmly ask their orderlies to arrange papers in alphabetical order before destroying them. (See cartoon).

No wonder that an EXPRESS DELIVERY, Late Fee paid letter, posted in Hyderabad (Deccan) on August 28, 1944, reached the addressee in Bombay on January 23, '45. An examination of the envelope revealed the mystery of this extra EXPRESS delivery, for it bears a LONDON post-mark of December 13, '44!

"Arrange these documents alphabetically before you burn them."

Humorous Skit

By "NOSY PARKER"

BEGGING AS A FINE ART

Begging has almost all the characteristics of a regular profession. Just see how.

A beggar has got to exert himself for bread at least as much as any Johnny of any profession. Whatever affects the interests of other professions, affects—may be through them—his as well. And then, begging is even productive, though negatively, of some social good (which point let me amplify in season).

Of the beggar it may never be said that he "eats the bread of idleness". "At least as much", I say, for few professions are as exacting in their demand on what the economist calls "personal capital". If at all the beggar is to make good in his line, he must have the patience of Job the tenacity of a Chinese street-hawker, the thick-skinnedness of a pupil-teacher at a teachers' training college, the obsequiousness of a petty grocer the humility of a candidate-clerk in a mamlatdar's office.

Yes, he has got to have all these,—and more. For the beggar's outfit cannot be complete without being reinforced by the cumulative potency of the histrionic manner of a master-tragedian; the dissimulative cunning of a master-spy; and the practical insight into human frailties, backed by capacity to exploit them, of a mountebank!

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Thus the beggar must know when to whine, when to sing, when to flatter, when to bless (and what not) himself into the sympathy of a prospective almsgiver. Is it a compassionate woman?—then just weep copious tears; or rather, if you be the mother of a babe, or can manage to be one for the occasion, try a variant, either by keeping the baby on short commons that it may howl without any urging from without, or by pinching it surreptitiously (and pinching hard) to stimulate it likewise. Is it an old miser?—then try to look the picture of a seer and prophesy a treasure trove for him at no distant date. Is it an anxious examinee?—then try the Old Moor stuff and read in his palm a brilliant success in the examination. Is the front of the house barred against charity by unfeeling masculinity?—then try the back and work upon feminine tenderness. Is it a Proud Albion?—then flatter unreservedly.

No, I have not sampled out the possibilities yet—possibilities that be countless. I have been, in my time, imposed upon by the spurious game-leg of the Malayalee beggar, on pilgrimage to Holy Gokarn. He was all the time, actually rolling along the streets of the town and yelling tremulously "Take pity on a poor cripple, Sirs, oh, take pity!" to the waving, as it were, of a copper bowl dexterously held erect on an upraised arm. And the leg in question was dressed up to present the verisimilitude of genuine lameness. I was persuaded into dropping an anna-piece into the bowl instead of the usual pie by his "game leg" on the one hand and the impossibility of securing the requisite small change at short notice on the other.

The following morning, I was visiting a friend of mine in a village hard by. I may have been just a couple of furlongs from the outskirts of my town: when whom should I see but the very 'cripple', but a cripple no longer, who had started presumably minutes after me but actually outpaced and caught up with me! I taxed him with deceit with perhaps, more warmth than is my wont, and rounded off with the observation that I was simply surprised at his agility which would do credit to a champion sprinter. He feigned, with voluble protestations, the outraged innocence of mistaken identity till I had sharply to draw his attention to among others the big mole near his armpit, which I happened to have noticed on the previous occasion.

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Beggars are also known to feign blindness, muteness, deafness,—even like Hamlet madness, and so on 'ad infinitum.' And the story of the mute beggar,—who was no more mute than I, and who, when exposed by a none too friendly fellow beggar to a would-be charitable victim of the deceit, gave the whole show away by vehemently protesting in clear accents that he was mute,—is but an image in fiction of what has a solid foundation in fact.

The conclusion is obvious and inevitable: Begging is an art; and what is more, it is a fine art; it answers to the description of either and no mistake. The Oxford Dictionary (Pocket Edn.) defines 'art' as "skill, esp. human skill as opp. to nature." Again, the same dictionary says that a 'fine art' is an art "demanding mind and imagination." Now, who can, after all that has been said so far on the subject deny the wealth of 'human skill, demanding mind and imagination," behind successful begging? Who can, I say, especially in these hard days of rationed food, rationed fuel, rationed clothing, etc., rendered harder by the dizzy soarings of market quotations, when lean charity has to be wrung out of reluctant hands? Only, the art of begging does something which a pure art does not, and it is his: it harmoniously synthesises the artistry of pure art and the artfulness of the Devil.

But this practice of the art of begging presupposes on the part of beggars, a long period of strenuous training, no less than the practice of any other art. And this training they do get, not from any special institute for beggars, since there is none such, if I mistake not, but from the practice of the profession itself, supplemented by such incidental acquisition as they may have by imitation and suggestion from some old stager in the line. There is "self activity"; an instance at once of "learning by doing" and "learning while earning" (which educators and social reformers, please note!). In short, far from entering the profession as the "finished products" of any institute as such, they attain their finish on their own later on.

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But this is not exactly "the primrose path" of learning; usually the best part of the beggar's energy is expended on mere itinerancy and learning; and the result is, at least in nine cases out of every ten, by the time he has acquired the necessary art, the beggar has reached the winter of life with hardly any thing laid by in the summer; only the rest, the fortunate few, having made their pile, and a modest pile at that, more often than not. The most fortunate of this—begging the purist's pardon—'aristocracy' of beggars is, perhaps, the American beggar who died intestate leaving the incredible fortune of 20,000 dollars or thereabouts, to be noised abroad by Reuter's or some such international news agency.

If so, something must be done to short-circuit this tortuous way of learning, with a view to making the profession more lucrative and so more attractive. For therein lies the one hope of doing the next best thing to sublimating the criminal propensities of those who are driven to crime by sheer poverty. And what better way of doing it can there be, I should like to know, than by establishing a training institute for beggars where young candidates for beggary will be thoroughly instructed gratis in the theory and practice of begging?

But why such an institute at all? Is begging productive of any social good? Is it not on the other hand, an ugly symptom of social decadence?—these are some of the arguments that may be advanced against the proposition. Sound arguments too. But are they sound enough? Do they not completely ignore the other side of the shield? Has it ever occurred to you, sir (or madam), that although it may not be productive of any social good, it is still preventive of much social evil?—at any rate, an infinitely greater evil than what it is itself supposed to be? Just consider what would happen if almsgiving were penalised by Govt. here in India.

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The beggars, driven to despair, will have recourse to desperate steps: some, perhaps, to suicide but the rest—and they will be tens of thousands—to crime; and oh, horror; not all His Majesty's police and all His Majesty's soldiery can even dream of tackling the million hell-hounds of crime unleashed against social security! For, after all, one must live, or else die. But, usually, one doesn't die without a struggle for survival, so the struggle will be there to be reckoned with, and will find expression in—CRIME! If however, the root of the evil of begging can itself be destroyed, it may not be so. But can it be destroyed in the present social structure?

Then will not the action taken against begging be as preposterous as pouring oil on the flame to extinguish it, since it can have the effect of only making the evil, flare up in a more sinister manifestation?

So then, to make begging more paying is indirectly to strengthen an important restraining influence on crime. Besides, it may even materially help in weaning from crime such of the criminals as will find in the improved prospects of begging sufficient inducement for turning a new leaf. Thus, it will be, curiously enough, more than ever ranged on the side of law and order, as the unwitting ally of the police.

It is clear, hence, that the proposed institute for beggars is highly desirable. But the proposition is apparently a tough one though. any move in that connection may raise a storm of derisive protest from cynics and rotters, whose name, worse luck, is legion. The very sanity of the poor enthusiasts concerned may be called in question. But let those enthusiasts take heart from the knowledge that never in the history of human progress—which has all along been a crawl uphill—has there been any reform, however salutary, involving a radical departure from the 'status quo', but has had to contend against a like situation.

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For instance, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Rodney Stone tells us that boxing stunk in the nostrils of the state, though secretly patronized by the aristocracy, in the early nineteenth century England. And yet, the self-same 'sport' has now taken on the dignity of cricket, the Prince or what of All Games and shares with horse-racing the dubious honour of stimulating state-encouraged big gambles! Again, in India particularly foreign travel—no matter how near home—was highly offensive to the religious susceptibilities of social orthodoxy, which promptly visited the "shocking irreligion" upon the hapless 'offender' by excommunication. But now?—well, even orthodox Brahmins have been as far as the antipodes!

Besides, let them (the enthusiasts) realise that, if they set about their job the right way by, among other things, properly advertising the salutary implications of what is proposed, their efforts, I expect, will be actually aided in a more tangible manner than mere lip-service, by at least those of us who, by reason of their fabulous wealth, are in constant danger of receiving unwelcome attentions from desperadoes. Nor may the thing, on second thought, excite the scorn that is feared, when it is realised that such an institute is actually a 'feit accompli' even in the domain of crime, if a now not so recent press report of the existence of an institute for criminals somewhere in Hungary, is to be trusted. We have too, in Fagin's Institute for pickpockets, a fictional specimen of such institutes in the London of the time of Charles Dickens; unless, of course, the author of Oliver Twist is not the realist he is reputed to be.

Well, if even criminals can have institutes, why not beggars?

STORY WITHOUT WORDS

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AMERICA BUILDS SHIPS

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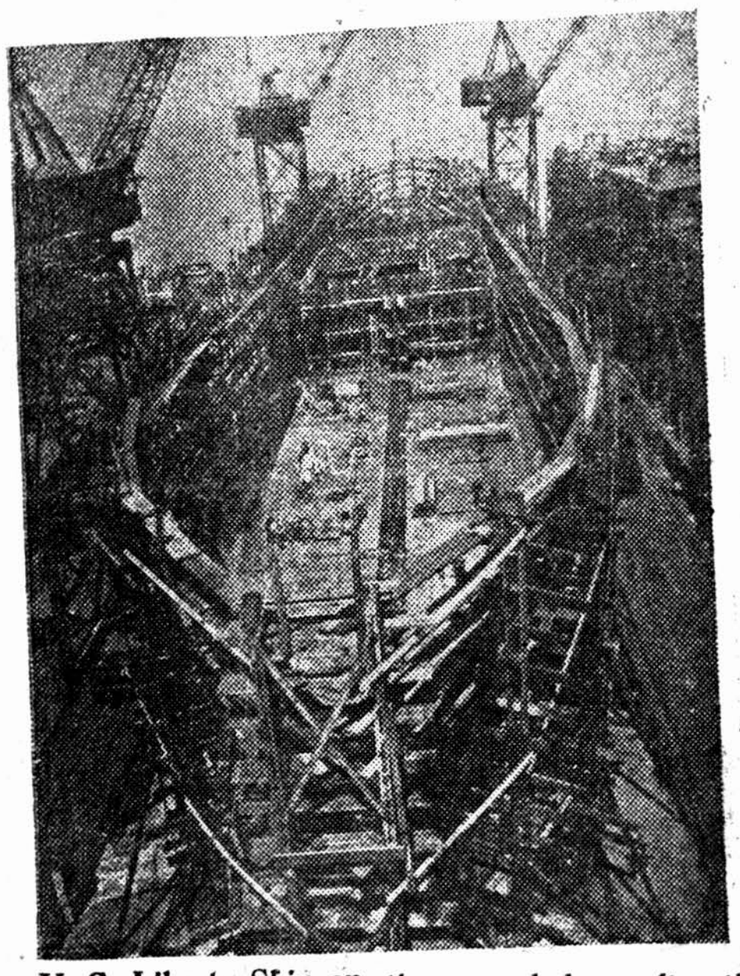
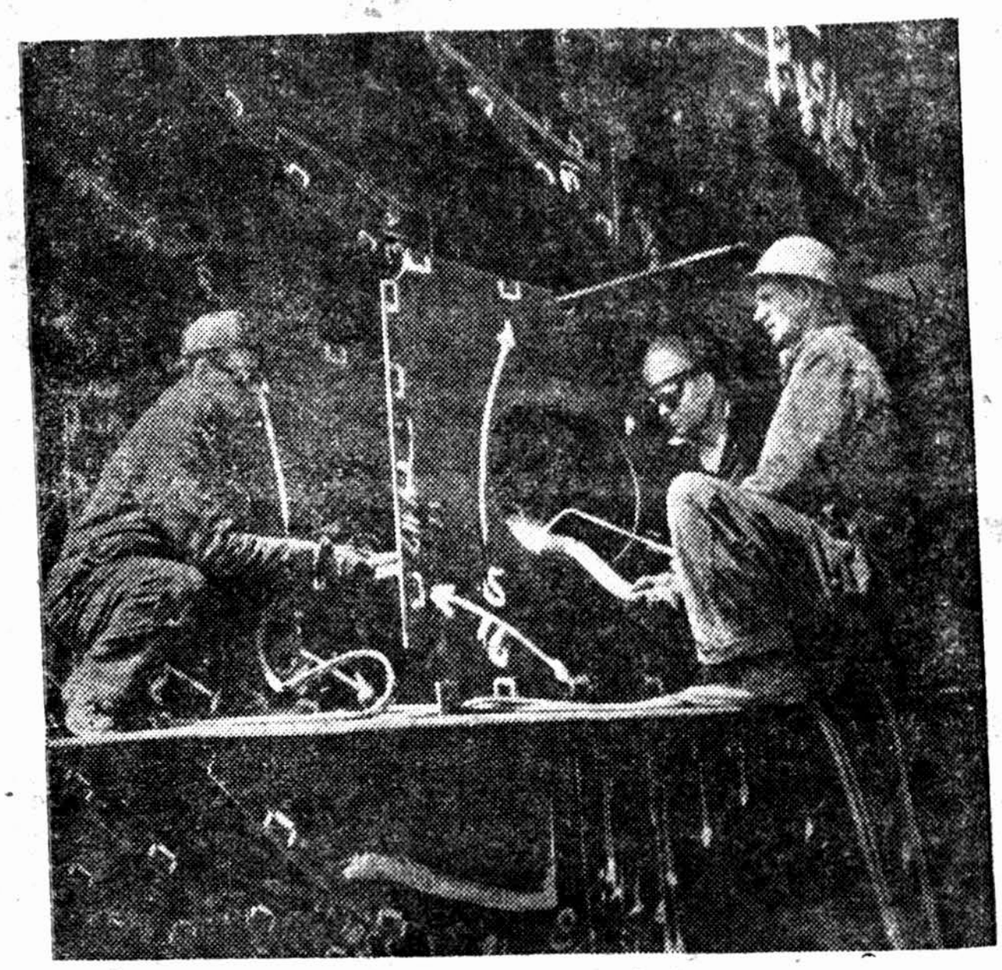


Here is a U. S. Liberty Ship on the second day after the keel plates were laid. The bottom is completed except for the forward and aft sections. Inner bottom tanks have been set on the ship's keel for fuel or ballast, and the midships bulkhead has been raised.—U. S. Office of War Information Photo.

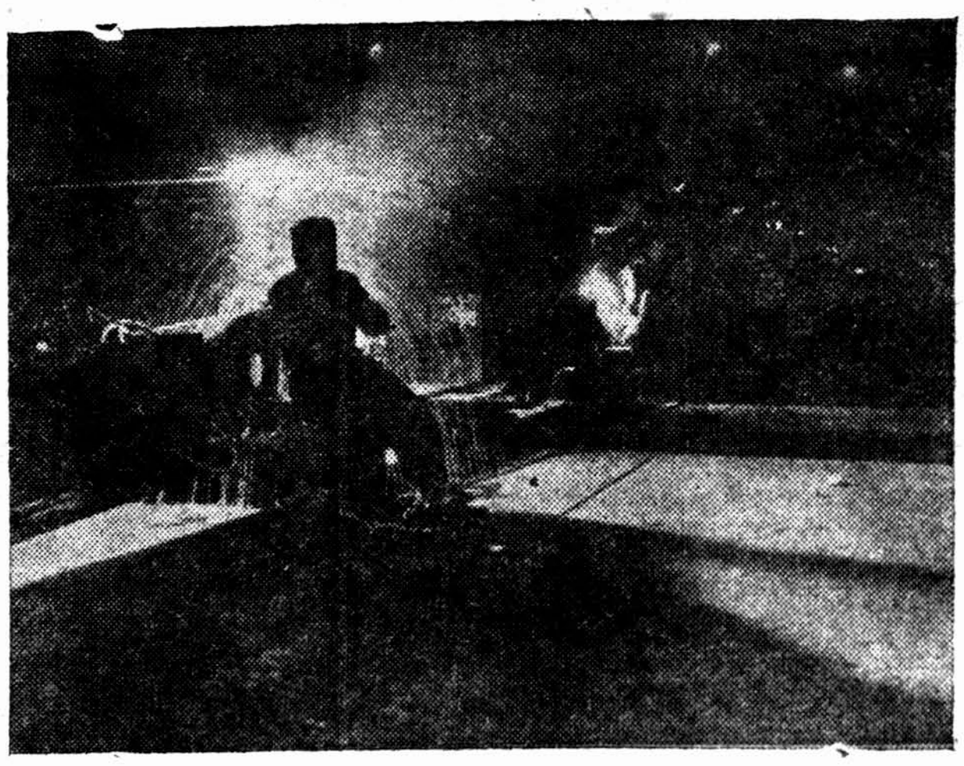


These men are working on inner tank sections for the Liberty Ship, to be transported by crane to the shipways, as soon as the keel and bottom plates are completed. The prefabrication of many large units such as this is the secret behind the rapidity of U. S. ship production.

When the United States entered the present war in December, 1941, the nation was forced to face the transportation and supply problems of a great war on two fronts. Europe and the Far East. Millions of men and millions of tons of supplies had to be transported to scores of vital points thousands of miles distant from the shores of America. The only key to the solution of this pressing supply problem was an immense fleet of merchant ships which had to be built rapidly and in great numbers.

Existing U.S. shipyards were expended. Almost overnight new shipyards rose on tracts of waste land and marsh, by seas and waterways. Hundreds and thousands of workers from every profession in the U.S., many of whom had never seen a ship or salt water in their lives, crowded into these ship building centres, doubling and trebling the population of many seacoast towns. Standardized ships that could be rapidly and economically built, among them the famous Liberty Ship, were quickly designed. To-day, American cargo ships from 65 major shipyards in 24 U.S. states are sliding into the water from 300 shipways at an average rate almost six ships every day.

A revolution in shipbuilding techniques accounts for this rapid production of American ships. By a new assembly-line system, ship construction is often spread over acres of yards. Bow and stern sections, deckhouses, and other units are constructed in various parts of the yard and hoisted into place on the ship's hull by giant cranes. The substitution of welding for riveting has cut down production time and produces a stronger ship. Behind the big seacoast shipyards, often far inland, more than 1000 industrial plants turn out engines, valves, pumps and marine fittings. One inland plant that used to make stoves and ranges now manufactures lifeboats.

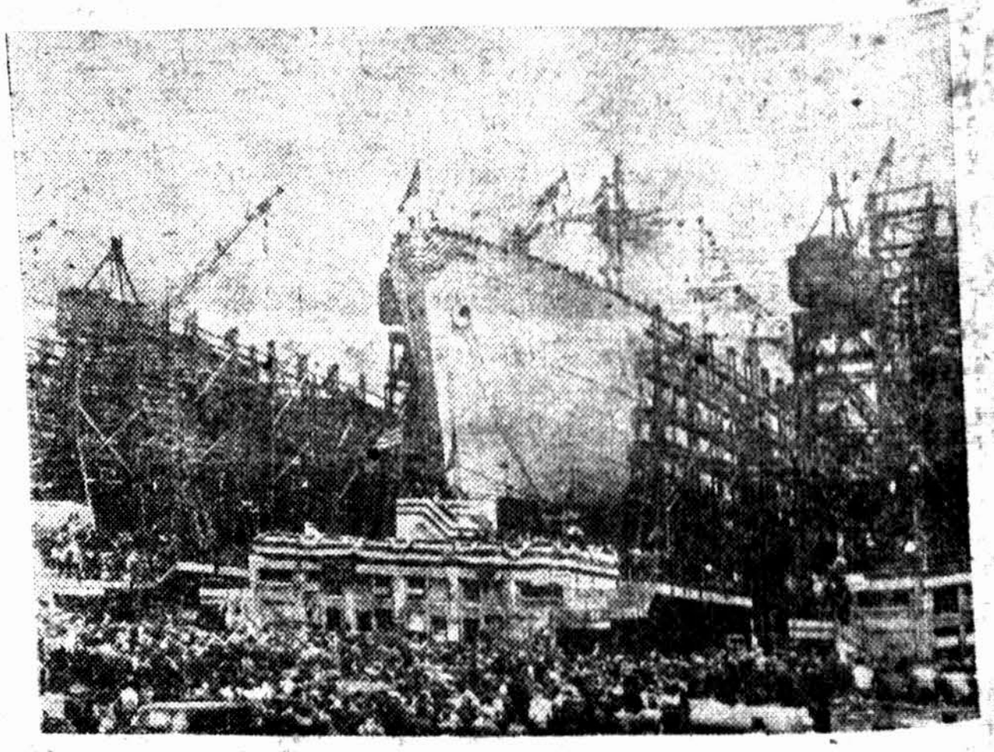


A close-up shows a night shift of shipyard welders as they weld frames on a sub-assembly table near the shipways. When these are completed, they will be lifted into place on the ship by cranes.

Due to these modern methods, between January 1, 1942, and December 1, 1943, the U.S. produced 25,284,287 tons of merchant shipping and increased the number of U.S. merchant ships to almost 3,000. Another 2,150 ships were scheduled for construction by the end of 1944. In the last war the best construction time for a 10,000 ton merchant ship was approximately 53 days. Recently, in a U.S. Pacific Coast shipyard, a 10,500 ton Liberty Ship was launched in the record time of four days, 15 hours and 25 minutes after the first section of its keel was laid.

A global war has brought into being these bridges of merchant ships reaching from America to vital ports of the eastern and western war theatres, and to scores of major delivery and transfer points on the five continents of Europe, Asia, Australia, Africa, and South America.—USOWI.

And here at work in the foreground is the giant crane which virtually puts the ship together. It is transporting the completed units and swings them into position on the ship as it is assembled on the ways of the shipyard.



Just 24 days after her keel plates were laid, this American Liberty Ship was launched at a ceremony in a shipyard on the Atlantic Coast, to join the bridge of ships which supply United Nations forces on five continents.

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